

Finland joins call for conference

CAIRO (R) — Egypt and Finland said on Monday an international peace conference attended by the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) was a suitable method to resolve the Middle East conflict. Finnish Foreign Minister Paavo Väyrynen is in Egypt as part of an African tour. An Egyptian Foreign Ministry statement issued after he had an hour of talks with his Egyptian counterpart Esmat Abdul Meguid also said the two countries wanted an end to the Iran-Iraq war, now in its sixth year, and pledged to work for closer relations between Egypt and Finland. Mr. Väyrynen is due to meet President Hosni Mubarak on Tuesday.

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North Sea oil prices tumble

LONDON (R) — Prices of North Sea crude oil crashed to their lowest levels in six years on Monday, falling some \$1.50 per barrel on the European spot market, traders said. In hectic business, Britain's Brent crude, the most sensitive barometer of world price trends, traded below the psychological \$20 barrier for the first time since the Iranian revolution of 1979/80 sent international prices soaring. A cargo loading in April was sold on Monday for \$19.50 per barrel and while oil loading sooner held above \$20, traders said the deal demonstrated dealers expected prices to fall further in the coming months. Monday's sharp drop brings Brent's losses to some \$9 since the beginning of last month. "There appears to be no parachute to rescue Brent," one broker told Reuters.

Yamani may seek deal with Britain, page 7

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Libyan delegation meets Moellmann

BONN (AP) — A Libyan government delegation urged West Germany on Monday to continue rejecting economic sanctions against the North African country, the Bonn Foreign Ministry said. The Libyans met with Juergen Moellmann, state secretary in the Foreign Ministry, according to ministry spokesman Juergen Chrobog. They brought a message from Libyan Foreign Minister Ali Abdul-Salam Treiki denying U.S. charges that Libya supports extremists such as Palestinian faction leader Abu Nidal. Chrobog told a news conference. Mr. Moellmann, in his meeting with the Libyans, repeated Bonn's "known" position on the U.S. sanctions. Chrobog said West Germany, a major trading partner of Libya, has refused to take part in the economic boycott.

Israel says it stopped 30 boats

TEL AVIV (AP) — The Israeli navy has intercepted 30 boats over the last seven years carrying commandos on their way to attack Israel, a military source said Monday. The source said she had no further details. The daily Haaretz reported that some of the boats served as launch crafts for smaller vessels carrying commandos toward the Israeli coast. Last year the navy announced three interceptions of boats sailing towards Lebanon, one of which was sunk, alleging they were carrying Palestinians on their way to attack Israel.

Student protesters arrested in Lahore

LAHORE, Pakistan (R) — Police arrested 12 student activists on Monday after they burned American flags during a rally protesting against the recent U.S. economic sanctions against Libya, witnesses said. The students, chanting anti-American slogans, staged the rally in front of the U.S. Information Agency centre in Lahore, capital of Pakistan's Punjab province. The protesters dispersed peacefully after the rally but police arrested the 12 students who they said had burned the U.S. flags.

Red Cross warns of Ethiopian situation

ADDIS ABABA (R) — Ethiopia could face further food shortages this year after suffering one of the worst famines in history, Swedish Red-Cross Secretary-General Anders Wikman said. Mr. Wikman, who toured the country for five days to assess food supplies, told reporters it was "possible a more difficult situation may develop in Ethiopia in April, May or June because the current harvest is not enough." He appealed to the international community to start sending food it has pledged immediately.

Police open fire on Madras mob, kill 3

NEW DELHI (R) — Police opened fire on a mob of 1,500 people besieging a police station on Monday in the southern city of Madras, killing three people and wounding nine others, the Press Trust of India (PTI) reported. The crowd surrounded the station, accusing police of beating to death a prisoner, PTI said.

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Aden factions continue struggle for power but major battles subside

Whereabouts of Mohammad unknown

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — Rival factions in South Yemen were still pitched for power on Monday but fighting appeared to have abated as the bloody conflict in Aden entered its second week.

A ceasefire appeared to be holding but informed sources in neighbouring North Yemen told Reuters sporadic shooting was still going around Khormaksar, near Aden airport, and at Al Mansoura, 10 kilometres west of the capital.

Forces opposed to President Ali Nasser Mohammad were surrounding the city, they said.

A radio station controlled by the opposition said the ruling Yemeni Socialist Party's politburo had ordered tanks and other heavy weapons withdrawn from areas of conflict.

Mr. Mohammad fled the country a week ago, it said. The politburo was in control of political, security and military centres and life in Aden was returning to normal, it added.

But doubts remained over the whereabouts of the 49-year-old president, head of state since 1980.

Ethiopian Television said on Sunday he was flying to Aden after talks in Addis Ababa. Sources in North Yemen, however,

said he was in his home region of Abyan, 160 kilometres east of the capital, a centre of forces loyal to him.

Hardcore rebel leader Abdul Fatah Ismail was reported to be "still alive" and leading attempts to rid the country of Mr. Mohammad.

Gulf-based Arab diplomatic sources quoted by the AP said that both warring sides were in control of separate parts of Aden. They said that pro-government and rebel forces were each holding strongholds, regulars of the split armed forces, tribal warriors and top army commanders pitted on opposite fences.

They seemed to have agreed to make way to mediators who have been trying to arrange a compromise, these sources said.

Associated Press reporter Khawla Mattar quoted evacuees reaching Djibouti from Aden as saying that the situation in embattled Aden has assumed "disastrous" proportions, which corpses and burned out military vehicles littering the streets (See page 2).

The radio station which made the announcement was using Aden radio frequencies, and appeared to be broadcasting from Lahej, an opposition stronghold 30 kilometres north of Aden.

The radio quoted a ruling party secretariat source as saying the fighting had been sparked by a bid by Mr. Mohammad to kill politburo members.

The president's guards had opened fire on politburo members assembled for a meeting, killing two and wounding others.

But four members reported executed last Monday, including Mr. Ismail and former Defence Minister Ali Ahmad Nasser Antar, had escaped and were still alive, it said.

Aden Radio, which has broadcast only spasmodically in the past week, said on Monday the four had been executed for trying to kill Mr. Mohammad and oust his government.

The opposition-controlled radio said Mr. Mohammad had tried to replace the collective leadership with a dictatorship.

Diplomats see Mr. Antar as the military strongman behind the drive to oust Mr. Mohammad, and Mr. Ismail, a hardline Marxist who returned to Aden only last year after five years of self-imposed

exile.

(Continued on page 3)

Peres meets Dutch premier after lengthy talks with Murphy

THE HAGUE (Agencies) — Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres briefed Dutch leaders on Monday on the latest situation in efforts for Middle East peace after meeting special U.S. envoy Richard Murphy late Sunday.

Israeli officials however continued to dampen speculation over a breakthrough in efforts towards convening an international forum for peace talks.

In London, British officials said Peres will try to enlist an enhanced British role to unlock the deadlocked peace process during his visit to Britain which begins Tuesday.

Peres spoke into the early hours of Monday morning with U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Mr. Murphy, who a day earlier had seen King Hussein for talks on an international forum for peace negotiations.

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Peres praised King Hussein on Sunday for making "serious" strides towards peace and said that some headway had been made toward arranging negotiations.

Peres told reporters before meeting with Mr. Murphy on Sunday that "two burning issues" remained unresolved:

(Continued on page 3)

22 South African blacks go on trial for 'treason'

DELMAS, South Africa (R) — Twenty-two black South African dissidents went on trial on Monday to face charges of murder and seeking to topple the country's white-dominated government by force.

They pleaded not guilty to the charges, which carry a possible death penalty.

Relatives and well-wishers crowded into a magistrates' court at Delmas, a sleepy provincial town 60 kilometres east of Johannesburg, where the trial — the biggest case for a quarter century — was moved for security reasons.

The accused range in age from 21 to 61. Some have been in prison since September 1984, and all have been refused bail.

They include former top officials of the United Democratic Front (UDF), the main internal group fighting apartheid, as well as little-known activists from community associations in black townships in the Vaal triangle, south of Johannesburg.

All face charges of treason and murder, which carry the death penalty, and additional charges of terrorism, subversion and furthering the aims of the banned African National Congress (ANC).

The trial is expected to last at least a year.

Some of the accused replied nervously when asked to plead, but UDF publicity secretary Teror Lekota told the court firmly: "I plead not guilty, and I would like to reaffirm that my organisation, the UDF, is committed to non-violent change."

The opening session was interrupted when Judge Kwem Van-dijkhorst adjourned the trial until Tuesday after the state attorney inadvertently revealed the name

of his first witness, whose identity he had wanted to keep secret.

Prosecuting lawyer Flip Jacobs was asking to have the testimony of a former ANC member heard in private, saying the witness feared attack by radicals if he were identified.

But Mr. Jacobs accidentally named the man in open court and the judge ruled that the application to hear the testimony in secret should itself have been heard privately.

He adjourned the trial so that Mr. Jacobs could prepare legal arguments to back the application, which will now be heard in private on Tuesday.

The state earlier challenged defence lawyers, saying that they had been in contact with another state witness who had since disappeared and seemed to be evading testimony.

The judge, describing these as "very serious allegations" against the defence team, instructed the team to investigate and explain to him whether the charge was founded.

The names of the two witnesses cannot be published.

Egypt jails self-styled prophet

CAIRO (AP) — An Egyptian court has sentenced a self-proclaimed prophet to five years while 22 of his followers received imprisonment terms ranging from six months to three years, Cairo newspapers reported Monday.

The court said physician Salah Breaqa has proclaimed himself a Muslim prophet and misinterpreted the teaching of Islam to suit his own extremist ideas. It said the activities of Breaqa and his followers represented "a contempt of Islam."



A building blazes after being hit in fighting in Aden on Sunday

Karami calls for reforms despite rightist opposition

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Lebanon's Prime Minister Rashid Karami urged on Monday that reforms to the country's Christian-dominated political system be pushed through despite violent Christian opposition.

Mr. Karami returned from talks in Damascus with Syrian President Hafez Al Assad on the situation in Lebanon after Syria's key Christian ally was ousted in a power struggle last week.

"Lebanese Forces" militia chief Elie Hobeika, who signed a Syrian-sponsored peace accord with rival militias, was forced to flee to Paris after bitter fighting pitting him against his hardline chief-of-staff Samir Geagea and forces loyal to President Amin Gemayel.

The peace pact proposed a 15-year transition period for reducing the powers of the Christian-held presidency and ending the system that has given Christians a dominant role since independence in 1943.

Calling the inter-Christian fighting "brutal," Mr. Karami told reporters: "If the transition period is to scrap political confessionalism, why don't we shorten it and call for immediate implementation."

Mr. Karami, who has close links to Syria, said a boycott of Mr. Gemayel proposed by the other two signatories to the peace pact, Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) leader Walid Junblatt and Shi'ite leader Nabih Berri, would not hasten reform or the president's departure.

But he indirectly criticised Mr. Gemayel for putting the interests of his Falangist Party above those of the state.

"The presence of parties at the head of state may put the state... at the service of the party instead of the people," Mr. Karami said.

His remarks struck an unusually hardline note from the man who has headed 10 Lebanese governments since independence, often mandated to restore unity after periods of conflict.

A political boycott of the 43-year-old Gemayel was seen as Syria's response to his forces' crackdown on Mr. Hobeika.

Under the projected boycott, all Muslim officials, including Mr. Karami, cabinet ministers and Parliament Speaker Hussein Husseini, will refuse to meet with Mr. Gemayel or take orders from him, reports said.

(Continued on page 3)

'Cargo blast' caused Air India crash

NEW DELHI (R) — Indian scientists said Monday that a powerful explosion in the front cargo hold probably caused an Air India jumbo to crash off Ireland last June.

The scientists said in a report, made available to the Press Trust of India (PTI) news agency, that holes and other features in the wreckage probably were caused by shock waves and fragments breaking up at high speed after the explosion.

The scientists from the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre in Bombay have just completed analysis of wreckage salvaged from the sea after the June 23 disaster.

The Boeing was on a flight from Toronto to Bombay and all 329 people on board were killed when it crashed shortly before it was to have landed at London.

The scientists' work included experiments with explosives on a structure similar to the Boeing 747 to compare the break-up pattern.

The report was presented to Justice B.N. Kirpal, who is leading India's official inquiry into the crash. The inquiry began in November and resumes this Wednesday.

Two Sikh groups claimed responsibility for planting a bomb on the flight and the inquiry has included hearings on airport security.

Settlers set up Jewish centre in Hebron

HEBRON, Occupied West Bank (Agencies) — Jewish settlers formally opened a Jewish centre in the heart of the occupied West Bank town of Hebron on Monday and vowed to revive a Jewish community that they said thrived there 50 years ago.

"We are returning to the city of our forefathers. More and more families will come here and Jewish settlement in Hebron will be alive, renewed and ever present," said Israeli Housing Minister David Levy at a ceremony opening the Beit Hadassah building, a former Jewish hospital that will house 11 families and 60 seminary students.

Some 300 Jews have bought or taken over houses in Hebron's former Jewish quarter. They are opposed by moderate Israelis and Palestinians who view their presence as provocative.

"We have established the cornerstone of the Jewish quarter of Hebron," said Rabbi Moshe Levinger, a leader of the militant West Bank settlers movement Gush Eranaim.

But deposed Hebron Mayor Mustafa Natshe warned that the arrival of more Jewish settlers could lead to trouble in the city of 50,000 Palestinians about 32 kilometres south of Jerusalem.

"The arrival of extremist settlers with fanatical opinions leads to tensions. And it leads to unknown results," Mr. Natshe told the Associated Press.

Hebron has been a focus for extremist settlers bent on restoring the Jewish community which fled after unrest in 1929.

The settlement drive in Hebron began over a decade ago when a group of ultra-nationalist Jewish women moved into the dilapidated Beit Hadassah building and refused to leave. The government did not officially condone the takeover but sent troops to protect them.

In 1980, six Jewish seminary students were shot as they returned from sabbath eve prayers at the building. A month later, two Palestinian mayors were injured by car bombs planted by Jewish settlers in retaliation for the Hebron shooting.

(Continued on page 3)

U.S. implicates Libya in more attacks

ATHENS (R) — A top U.S. official on Monday widened accusations against the Abu Nidal extremist group and Libya by adding the United States "devoutly hoped" military action against Libya would not be necessary.

Deputy Secretary of State John Whitehead, touring U.S. allies to explain American views on terrorism, said last November's Egyptian hijacking, two guerrilla attacks on British tourists here and the Rome and Vienna airport attacks were all carried out by Abu Nidal with Libyan support.

U.S. officials have several times linked the airport attacks of Dec. 27 — which prompted President Ronald Reagan to impose sanctions against Libya — with Abu Nidal, leader of a hardline Palestinian guerrilla faction, and Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi.

But it was the first time the U.S. has made such a direct connection with the other incidents.

Mr. Whitehead spoke to newsmen at Athens airport after talks with Greek officials, including a surprise meeting with Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu. Asked about the possibility of military action by the U.S. against Libya, he said:

"The possibility of military action is something that all of us very devoutly hope can be avoided."

"President Reagan has reserved the right at a later stage to reconsider the possibility, but he has decided not to follow that course at the present time," Mr. Whitehead said.

Mr. Reagan would reconsider if peaceful means did not work and

"the actions of Qadhafi continue."

Mr. Whitehead — who has already been to Canada, Britain, Italy and Turkey and flew to West Germany later on Monday — said all the states he has visited, including Greece, agreed that Libya backed terrorism.

"Can there be any doubt? He (Col. Qadhafi) has boasted about it himself, and we have all kinds of other information."

Mr. Whitehead said the United States believed Abu Nidal, in cooperation with Libya, was responsible for bomb attacks at two Athens hotels in August and September last year in which 24 British tourists were injured.

The U.S. also held them responsible for the Egyptian hijacking in November.

Soviet, British officials seek closer ties

LONDON (R) — Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Nikolai Ryzhov on Monday held talks with British officials on forging better links after spying allegations led to a string of expulsions by both sides last September.

The talks were held against a background of unprecedented post-war cooperation between London and Moscow in the evacuation of hundreds of foreigners from South Yemen.

British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe was meeting Mr. Ryzhov to express personal thanks to Moscow for its role in the evacuation of British nationals from war-torn Aden, the Foreign Office said.

Mr. Howe said of the cooperation with the Soviet Union on Monday:

"It was obviously sensible and necessary since they play such a dominant role in South Yemen and we were in touch with them in Moscow."

Mr. Ryzhov, the most senior Soviet official to visit Britain since the expulsions last autumn, arrived for a four-day visit on Saturday. He held talks on bilateral issues on Monday with senior Foreign Office official Derek Thomas.

The two officials were expected to discuss preliminary arrangements for a visit to Britain later this year by Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze.

Diplomatic sources said Mr. Ryzhov would also brief British officials in detail on arms control proposals announced last week by Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev

(See page 4).

The scheme, which includes a plan for the eventual elimination of nuclear weapons, has been described by Britain as containing new elements which have to be scrutinised.

Relations between Britain and the Soviet Union deteriorated last September when 31 officials and diplomats on each side were expelled amid allegations of spying.

Since then, however, London and Moscow have done much to patch up their differences through diplomatic channels.

Improved relations paved a way for the evacuation operation from South Yemen, which diplomats described as the most substantial cooperation between the two countries since World War II.

Jerusalem Committee meets today to review Israeli moves

RABAT (Agencies) — The Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) Jerusalem Committee meets here on Tuesday to discuss Israeli actions against holy places in the occupied Arab territories.

The meeting coincides with an urgent debate at the United Nations Security Council on charges of Israeli aggression against the Al Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem.

The mosque is Islam's third holiest shrine after Mecca and Medina.

The committee meeting follows stormy visits to the mosque earlier this month by a group of Israeli parliamentarians.

The parliamentarians went to investigate reports of what they described as unauthorised construction.

In a new incident on Sunday, police arrested 12 Israelis trying to force their way into the mosque to plant the Israeli flag.

The 46-nation OIC was set up in 1969 after Al Aqsa was damaged by fire. The blaze, caused by an Australian who Israel claimed was mentally disturbed, caused an

outrage in the Arab and Islamic world.

Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri said on Sunday the Marjess meeting would take decisive action against Israel.

Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Abdul Aziz Al Khayyat said Jordan would submit a proposal for guarding the mosque.

A delegation from Guinea, led by Industry Minister Kemoko Keita arrived in Casablanca on Sunday for the meeting, Morocco's map news agency said.

The committee, which is headed by King Hassan of Morocco, the OIC chairman, includes Saudi Arabia, Bangladesh, Guinea, Indonesia, Iraq, Iran, Jordan, Lebanon, Mauritania, Niger, Pakistan, Senegal and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

The annual Islamic foreign ministers' meeting in Fez earlier this

month denounced "odious aggression" against Al Aqsa Mosque perpetrated "with the support and the protection of the Israeli occupation authorities."

In a statement, it warned Israel against such acts and said the international community was held responsible for any continuation of such actions by Israel which violated U.N. resolutions and international laws and customs.

The Jerusalem Committee last met in Morocco in April 1984 when the OIC decided to break diplomatic relations with Costa Rica and Salvador, after they had opted to transfer their embassies in Israel from Tel Aviv to occupied Jerusalem.

The committee also decided to intensify contacts with the Vatican, saying that both Islam and Christianity were victims of an Israeli policy of making Jerusalem a Jewish city.

The general aim of the committee is to free Jerusalem from Israeli occupation, inform non-Islamic nations of what is happening, Christians and Jews met.

Some ex-hostages still feel adverse effects of captivity

SACRAMENTO, California (AP) — Victor Tomseth does not feel comfortable in a room unless he has a view of the outside. Robert Blucker will not register to vote because he fears he might be confined to a small room for jury duty.

Five years after their release, some of the Americans held hostage in Iran still feel the effects of their captivity.

"No doubt there's been some psychic damage," Mr. Blucker, a former embassy economics officer who is retired from the foreign service, said in an interview with the Sacramento Bee.

Ex-hostages said most of the emotional problems came soon after they were released and were resolved through therapy or, in several cases, talking about their experiences in lectures.

Of the 52 Americans who were imprisoned for all 444 days, 51 are still alive. One, William Koofigh, 55, died of natural causes Nov. 11.

The Bee located all but three of the 51 and interviewed 35 of them. The interviews were published on Sunday.

It was Jan. 20, 1981, five years ago Monday, that the 52 hostages were released by Iran after 444 days in captivity in the U.S. embassy in Tehran.

John Linbert, now the number two official at the American embassy in Tehran, said the hostages

can reach any place, not with aircraft carriers nor with the bombers, but with suicide squads," JANA quoted him as telling reporters at that time.

Italian Premier Bettino Craxi on Sunday refused to reveal the "incontrovertible" evidence presented by a U.S. envoy, but said that Libya's support for a Palestinian group makes clear that country's link with terrorism.

Reporters had asked Mr. Craxi what was the proof presented in a meeting he held on Friday with John Whitehead, U.S. deputy secretary of state, who was dispatched by President Reagan to try to convince Western allies to join in economic sanctions against Libya.

It was the latest in a series of threats and counter-threats between Libya and the United States in the wake of increased tensions over the Dec. 27 attack on Rome and Vienna airports.

U.S. President Ronald Reagan has imposed economic sanctions, ordering all U.S. citizens and companies to stop doing business with Libya because he has "irrefutable" proof that Col. Qadhafi was involved in the airport attacks which killed 19 people and wounded 120 others.

Col. Qadhafi in turn has accused the United States of assembling warships in the Mediterranean for a possible attack on Libya, and warned that an onslaught would be answered by attacks inside America.

"If America commits aggression against us, then we will commit aggression against it, inside America itself," JANA quoted Col. Qadhafi as saying earlier this month.

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Crippled tugboat under tow in Gulf

ROTTERDAM (R) — A Dutch oil maintenance ship was under tow in the Gulf heading for Dubai after an Iraqi missile attack killed a crewman and wounded eight.

Two of them seriously, a spokesman for the vessel's owner said.

The dead man and the two badly hurt were Australians, part of a diving and maintenance team on board the 495-ton Smit Maasuis, owned by the Rotterdam-based salvage firm Smit International, company spokesman Henk Drenth told Reuters.

Four other Australians and two members of the ship's Dutch crew were also hurt when a rocket, probably a French-built Exocet, blasted through the engine room early Sunday morning, setting the vessel ablaze, Drenth said.

The injured were taken to the Iranian port of Bushehr by an Iranian naval vessel and were now in hospital. The rest of the crew were on their way to Dubai aboard the tug Smit Colombo.

No names were yet available for the casualties, Drenth said.

The Smit Maasuis was about 130 kilometres south of Iran's main oil terminal at Kharg Island, on its way to Sharjah in the United Arab Emirates when it was hit.

The Smit Maasuis is the third confirmed victim this year of the shipping war between Iran and Iraq, sequel to the five-year-old ground conflict between them.

In Baghdad on Sunday, an Iraqi military spokesman said Iraqi warplanes at 0730 GMT had attacked a large naval target, its usual term for a tanker or merchant ship.

The ship will be examined in Dubai to decide if it is worth repairing, Drenth said.

The fire on board had been put out, but the engine room was completely burnt out and the living quarters were seriously damaged, he said.

In the middle of last year another Smit International vessel suffered a similar attack.

Mugabe to mediate in Iran-Iraq war

HARARE, Zimbabwe (AP) — Zimbabwe Prime Minister Robert Mugabe, next chairman of the Non-Aligned Movement, is expected to act as a mediator in the five-year-old war between fellow members Iran and Iraq during the current three-day official visit here of Iranian President Ali Khamenei, a government official said on Monday.

Mr. Khamenei arrived at Harare international airport on Monday to a 21-gun salute and a red carpet welcome mixing military pomp with tribal pageantry.

Five days before Mr. Khamenei arrived in Africa's youngest independent nation outgoing Iraqi Ambassador Muidhir Al Wadawi told the Zimbabwe Inter-African News Agency in an interview that Zimbabwe as the leader of the Non-Aligned Movement from September could play "a big role" in ending the Iran-Iraq war.

A senior government official, who cannot be identified because of public service regulations, told the Associated Press on the eve of Mr. Khamenei's visit: "The prime minister will most certainly discuss the conflict with the Iranian president and he will do anything he can towards peace."

Mr. Mugabe, flanked by titular President Canaan Banana, was at the airport Monday to welcome the Iranian head of state.

The 61-year-old premier is to host the next non-aligned summit in Harare. He will be chairman of the bloc for the ensuing three years.

Mr. Mugabe told the departing Iraqi ambassador last Thursday he hoped Iran and Iraq as members of the movement would soon be able to settle their differences and end the war that has cost at least 600,000 lives.

The ambassador said Zimbabwe could, as next non-aligned leader, call on Iran and Iraq to stop the fighting.

A spokesman for the Iranian embassy here declined immediate comment on Mr. Mugabe's offer of mediation.

Both Iran and Iraq have said they will attend the next non-aligned summit in Harare.

All previous efforts at mediation in the war have failed. Iran has insistently demanded outright condemnation of Iraq as the "aggressor" in the Gulf war as a precondition for peace talks.

In Luanda, Mr. Khamenei held talks with President Jose Eduardo dos Santos on Sunday and Monday.

Officials said the two leaders conferred on political, economic, social and cultural affairs.

Speaking as Mr. Khamenei left for Zimbabwe, Mr. dos Santos appealed for understanding between Iran and Iraq.

The Angolan leader described Iran and Iraq as "brother countries".

Blecha said the measure may require Austrian tourists to apply for visas before going to Tunisia.

Tunisian and Austrian authorities said after the attack, in which three people were killed and 47 injured, that the three attackers arrived in Austria with passports that had been taken away from Tunisian workers expelled from Libya last year.

One of the gunmen was killed in a shootout with police, the other two, who claimed they were members of the Abu Nidal extremist group, were injured and arrested.

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Two kidnapped Spanish embassy officials released

MADRID (Agencies) — Two Spanish embassy officials kidnapped on Friday by gunmen near Beirut airport were reported released unharmed on Monday, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said.

He said a third man, a member of a Spanish special anti-terrorist police unit, was still believed to be a prisoner. The specialist was sent to Beirut in anticipation of attacks against Spanish interests following Spain's establishment of diplomatic relations with Israel.

"We have not spoken to Ambassador Pedro Manuel Aristegui due to communications problems, but the information we have is that the two embassy officials have been released," he told Reuters in a telephone interview.

He declined to say whether Mr.

Aristegui had struck a deal with the kidnappers, believed to be members of a dissident Shi'ite militia faction.

"Aristegui has been in contact with Shi'ite leaders for the past three days," he said.

The abductors had demanded the release of two Lebanese Shi'ites convicted in Spain of the attempted murder of a Libyan diplomat in 1984.

The two embassy officials, Eid Abdo and Assad Abdo, are Lebanese nationals.

The three men, together with three others, were seized on their way from Beirut airport to the Spanish embassy's offices in east Beirut. But the other three were released shortly after capture.

Iran denies Abu Nidal is based in Tehran

ROME (R) — The Iranian embassy on Monday denied allegations that guerrilla leader Abu Nidal, suspected of masterminding recent attacks at Rome and Vienna airports, was based in Iran.

Ahmad Jibril, leader of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command (PFLP-GC), told the Milan daily Corriere Della Sera on Friday that Abu Nidal spent most of his time in Tehran and not Libya as widely reported.

The United States has accused Abu Nidal of being behind the Dec. 27 airport attacks in which 19 people were killed.

She said the government-run radio went off the air on Monday, shortly after announcing an attempt on the life of President Ali Nasser Mohammad.

The government radio had said that four leaders of a coup attempt were executed.

"We kept hearing contradictory newscasts on four different makeshift stations, one radio station speaking for the government and another broadcasting rebels' communications," said Mr. Saeed.

Fatima said the stations were broadcasting off and on, and the longest transmission lasted only two hours.

She said the family became so confused that "we turned to Kuwait radio to get the real news."

The family, like many others, "huddled in utter fear" indoors, until Friday, when "cars roared the suburb announcing through bullhorns and loudspeakers that aliens will be allowed to leave Aden," she said.

Evacuees relate ordeal in Aden

By Khawla Mattar
The Associated Press

DJIBOUTI — Embattled Aden has been reduced to a ghost city, with decaying corpses littering deserted streets and bomb-pocked buildings inhabited by unclaimed dogs and snipers, according to a group of Egyptian schoolteachers who reached here from South Yemen on Sunday.

"The stench of death was so strong that we had to run as fast as we could away from it," said Fatima Saeed, a 17-year-old student who left Aden last Friday.

Miss Saeed praised diplomats of the French embassy in Aden for "giving us shelter, and the British took us by a yacht to Djibouti. We were lucky."

Her father, 42-year-old schoolteacher Mohammad Saeed, said a total of 30 Egyptian teachers and U.N. employees managed to leave Aden on Saturday aboard Queen Elizabeth II's royal

yacht Britannia.

"Women and children, mostly British and Egyptian, were taken to the Britannia on Friday," he said. "The men left on Saturday."

Mr. Saeed and other Egyptians said they lived in an apartment building in the Aden suburb of Khormaksar, scene of fierce fighting near the airport during the past six days.

"I was on my way to home from an examination last Monday, when I heard distant shooting and explosions," said Miss Saeed. "I ran into the house. The sound of gunfire and blasts was gradually growing louder and closer to Khormaksar."

She said that the whole family was "lucky" back home before the fighting came to the streets of the suburb.

"We had to stay indoors till Friday, with very little food in the fridge," she said. "At times we were hungry and too afraid to venture out of the building."

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TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION	773111-19
MAIN CHANNEL	16:00 Koran
16:30 Cartoons	
16:45 Children Programme	
17:00 Programme on Algeria	
17:30 Give Me A Break	
18:00 Programme on Lebanon	
18:30 Local Series	
19:30 News programme	
20:00 News in Arabic	
20:30 News in French	
21:30 Tomorrow's Programme	
21:40 Studio '86	
21:50 News in Arabic	
FOREIGN CHANNEL	
16:00 Histoire secreete de petrole	
16:30 News in French	
16:45 Bergeval et Filles	
17:15 News in Hebrew	
17:30 News in Arabic	
18:30 That's My Boy	
19:30 Towards 2000	
21:10 A Fortunate Life	
22:00 News in English	
22:30 Murder, She Wrote	
RADIO JORDAN	
855 KHZ. AM & 99 MHz. FM	
& partly on 9500 KHZ. SW	
774111-19	
07:00 Light Music	
07:30 News Desk	
08:00 Morning Show	
08:30 News Summary	
09:00 Morning Show Contd.	
11:00 Pop Session Contd.	
12:00 News Summary	
12:30 Pop Session Contd.	
13:00 News Summary	
13:30 Pop Session Contd.	
14:00 News Summary	
14:30 Country Music	
15:00 Concert Hour	
15:30 News Summary	
16:00 Instrumental	
16:30 Old Favourites	
17:00 Science Report	
17:30 Pop Session	
18:00 News Summary	
18:30 Top Twenty	
19:00 Newsdesk	
19:30 Date with a Star	
20:00 Evening Show	
21:00 News Summary	
21:45 Evening Show Contd.	
21:55 News Summary	

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

EXHIBITION

* French exhibition entitled "Naisance de l'Ecriture" at the French Cultural Centre (until Jan. 30)

FILM

* The ABC News at 7:00 p.m. at the American Centre

CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre Tel. 6610267
American Centre Tel. 644371
American Centre Library Tel. 641520
British Council Tel. 636147-8
French Cultural Centre Tel. 637009
Goethe Institute Tel. 644193
Soviet Cultural Centre Tel. 644203
Spanish Cultural Centre Tel. 624049
Turkish Cultural Centre Tel. 639777
Haya Arts Centre Tel. 645195
Hassan Youth City Tel. 647181/86
Y.W.C.A. Tel. 644251
U.M.A. Tel. 644251
Amman Municipal Library Tel. 637111
University of Jordan Library Tel. 843555

MUSEUMS

Feldore Museum: Jewellery and costumes over 100 years old. Also monies and coins. Hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.
Jordan National Galleries: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics and sculptures by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century Orientalist artists. Museum: Jabel Lawash, Opening hours: 10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 630128.
Museum of Military Weapons: The Museum: Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman. Opening hours 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Closed Saturdays. Tel. 664249.

Popular Life of Jordan Museum: (100 to 150 year old items such as costumes, weapons, musical instruments, etc. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 637169).

SERVICE CLUBS

Lions Amman Club. Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1:30 p.m.
Lions Tadmor-Deir el Zor Club. Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Amman Hotel, 7:30 p.m.
Philadelphia Rotary Club. Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1:30 p.m.
Rotary Club. Meetings every Tuesday at the Intercontinental Hotel, 2:00 p.m.
Lions Tadmor-Deir el Zor Club. Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, Eighth Circle. Tel. 815261, 815410.

CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabel Amman, Tel. 624590.
Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabel Lawash, Tel. 67440.
De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabel Hussein, 661757.
Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Abdali, 623541.
Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabel Amman, 678906.
Armenian Catholic Church 'Ashrafieh', 71531.
Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh, 75261.
St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafieh, 71751.
Armenian Apostolic Church (Inter-denominational) meets at Southern Baptist School in Shamsi, 677534.
Evangelical Lutheran Church, Jabel Amman, 6th Circle, (Rev. N. Smir), Tel. 811295.
Rainbow Congregation (International, inter-denominational) meets in the Church of the Redeemer, Jabel Amman. Tel. 663249.

PRAYER TIMES

05:14	.....	Fajr
06:36	.....	(Sunrise) Duha
11:47	.....	Dhuhr
14:39	.....	'Asr
16:36	.....	Maghrib
18:22	.....	Isha

Home news

Senate, Lower House committees meet today

AMMAN (Petra) — The Upper House of Parliament will meet today under the chairmanship of Speaker Ahmad Al-Lawzi. During today's session, a Royal Decree appointing Mr. Lawzi as Speaker of the House will be read and the standing committee and the legal, financial, foreign affairs and education committees will be convened. The standing committee includes two deputies and two assistants to the speaker. The Senate will also refer a number of proposals to specialised committees.

The Lower House of Parliament will also meet today for discussions on the draft law.

The national guidance, tourism and sports committee will also hold a meeting under the chairmanship of Mr. Farah Abu Jabr to discuss a number of subjects on the committee's agenda.

The meeting will be attended by Information Minister Mohammad Al-Khatib.

On Monday the financial committee of the Lower House discussed the Audit Bureau's report for the year 1984 and other subjects related to the Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment, Amman Municipality and the Water Authority of Jordan (WAJ).

The committee meeting was attended by Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs Sami Jouda, Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Marwan Al-Hmoud, Amman Mayor Abdul Ra'uf Al-Rawabdeh, Audit Bureau Director Hashem Al-Dabbas and WAJ President Mohammad Saleh Al-Kellani.

West Bank agricultural engineers call for support

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Agricultural Engineers' Association (AEA) in the occupied West Bank has urged the Jordanian government to extend help to the agricultural sector in the occupied Arab territories and has warned against Israel's continuing attempts to confiscate Arab land and deprive legitimate owners of the right to cultivate their land.

The memo called on the government to support food production projects in the West Bank and to help find jobs for unemployed agricultural engineers.

The memo, channelled through the Jordanian Agricultural Engineers' Association (JAEA), said that agriculture is the main source of income for the majority of the population in the occupied territories. But, the memo added that many people are losing their livelihoods due to Israel's malpractices and the seizure of land which has forced local people to emigrate. As a result of the negative effects of Israel's practices, the memo said, nearly 50 per cent of the local agricultural engineers are now seeking employment in fields other than agriculture.

Agricultural engineers in the West Bank have over the past years been deprived of training and have been unable to conduct research in their fields of specialisation due to the lack of a proper authority to organise such training and this has led to a further deterioration in food production in the territory, the memo pointed out.

To make matters worse, many West Bank agricultural engineers who had been employed in the Arab countries, have started returning to the occupied territories only to find themselves without job opportunities, the memo said.

The memo proposed the creation of a special fund to help the agricultural sector in general and agricultural engineers in particular.



Minister of Labour and Social Development Khalid Haj Hassan Monday briefs reporters on new policy regulating local labour market (Petra photo)

Jordan needs nurses, midwives for new health centres, Hamzeh says

By Najwa Najjar
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — "Jordan is badly in need of nurses and midwives," Minister of Health Zaid Hamzeh said Monday. The lack of Jordanian nurses has forced the Ministry of Health in the past to resort to employing foreign nurses and lately the ministry has turned to other Arab countries. In addition, many other steps are being taken to mend the existing deficiency.

In an interview with the Jordan Times, Dr. Hamzeh explained that the Ministry of Health is building new health centres and expanding certain hospitals which means that there is a need for more nurses and midwives. Although 30 out of 44 nursing graduates were recently hired by the Ministry of Health, it was not sufficient to offset the shortage of nurses in Jordan, the minister continued.



Zaid Hamzeh

Until then, the lack of Jordanian nurses must be dealt with. One method the ministry tried was contracting foreign nurses to work in Jordan. However, past experiences with foreign nurses proved unsuccessful, Dr. Hamzeh said. This was largely due to language problems. Arabic is the means of communication between a patient and a nurse, and not all the doctors in Jordan speak English because fewer are graduating from medical schools in English speaking countries, he explained.

Nurses from Arab countries have been found to be more suitable since they not only understand the language, but the traditions and habits as well. However, most Arab countries are in the same boat as Jordan, noted Dr. Hamzeh.

The only other Arab country which has available nurses is Egypt. The Egyptian Ministry of Health has chosen 89 nurses who will be interviewed by a Jordanian committee next week in Egypt. The committee from the Ministry of Health will give contracts to those candidates who have graduated from nursing colleges of approximately the same standard as the nursing colleges in Jordan. The nurses will be assigned to different fields of specialisation in various hospitals in Jordan.

Teaching staff

There are presently three nursing colleges in Jordan, located in Amman, Zarqa, and Irbid. The ministry has plans to establish a nursing school in Salt and another in Karak. "The problem is the teaching staff, not the lack of students. We receive more applications than our capacity," the minister said. Therefore, the ministry is presently in the process of planning an institute for teaching instructors at the nursing colleges, he added. Dr. Hamzeh feels that the proper way to increase the teaching staff is to establish a national and a regional nursing institute for teaching and preparing nursing instructors. Aid has been promised from different foreign organisations for this purpose, he said.

ICRC changes its title, Abu Qoura announces

AMMAN (Petra) — The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) will be known by the name of the International Committee of the Red Cross and Crescent (ICRCC), according to a draft agreement endorsed by the Red Cross and Red Crescent standing commission in Geneva.

This was announced in Amman by Dr. Ahmad Abu Qoura, president of the Jordanian National Red Crescent Committee (JNRCC) and chairman of the standing commission. Dr. Abu Qoura, who has just returned to Amman from the commission's meeting, said that a statement on the new amendments will be circulated to all governments and to Red Cross and Red Crescent societies around the world to be studied and endorsed prior to a general conference of Red Cross and Red Crescent societies to be held in Geneva in October.

The standing commission has endorsed an agenda for the projected conference. Dr. Abu Qoura continued. He said that the conference will be composed of two groups, one discussing international humanitarian laws and the second dealing with new legislation and regulations for developing such laws. The recommendations of the two groups will be offered to the conference's general assembly due to convene towards the end of the meeting on Oct. 30, Dr. Abu Qoura added.

It has also been announced that Jordan will take part in the 17th conference of Arab Red Crescent societies which will be held in Nouakchott, Mauritania on March 17 and that Dr. Abu Qoura will head the Jordanian delegation to the conference. JNRCC Secretary General Muwaffaq Al-Fawaz Al-Zubi said that the three-day conference will discuss the financial report and the budget of the societies' general secretariat. The conference, Dr. Zubi added, will also discuss the establishment of a training centre in Istanbul, organising a seminar in Amman on international laws in addition to setting up a regional relief warehouse in Istanbul.

Jordan to attend Red Crescent assembly

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Ma'an plans to form women's group

MA'AN (Petra) — Contacts are currently underway to establish a women's federation in Ma'an Governorate to enable women in the region to contribute to the development of their local communities. Ma'an Governor Eid Al-Qatameh said that meetings will take place with women to highlight the role of women in development. He added that the idea for establishing a women's federation in the governorate has met with a favourable response. Contacts are currently taking place with the General Federation of Jordanian Women and women's societies to translate this idea into a reality, the governor said. Mr. Qatameh pointed out that women's participation in community development is vital.

Cold, stormy weather causes hazardous conditions in Ma'an

AMMAN (J.T.) — A cold depression which affected Jordan on Sunday has ended after bringing rain to most parts of the country and snow to a number of high regions. The depression, accompanied by high winds of up to 120 kilometres an hour in some areas, Monday began moving eastwards, according to Meteorology Department sources.

One of the most affected regions was Ma'an Governorate where snow blocked several roads. Wadi Mousa, Al-Shobak and Al-Naqab. Ma'an Governor Eid Al-Qatameh chaired a meeting Monday to discuss arrangements for re-opening roads and ensuring electricity supplies to all areas. Special attention was given to regions where tawjili students are currently taking their first term exam for this scholastic year.

According to reports from Ma'an, there were no casualties as a result of the snowfall but motorists were cautioned to take extra care driving along the Desert Highway to Aqaba due to poor visibility in some areas and the presence of broken glass in others. The windscreens of 12 vehicles travelling along the road were smashed in the storm on Sunday.

Teams from the Jordan Electricity Authority and the Department of Public Works Monday carried out repairs to installations damaged in the storm. As the storm was in progress, local authorities helped bedouins living in low-lying areas to move to safer ground in Ma'an Governorate.

Work starts on children's park, activity complex at Allan

SALT (Petra) — Work started Sunday on the establishment of a children's garden at Allan in Balqa Governorate. A spokesman for the Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment, which is carrying out the project, said that the project entails building a multi-purpose complex, including a library and a theatre, which will be used for children's activities.

The first phase of the project, located at Zay, is expected to cost JD 28,330 and will be completed in six months, the spokesman added. He said the second phase of the project entails installing two swimming pools, a car park and a bird garden. Allan Municipality earlier donated a six-dunum area of land for the project.

W.German firm to prepare designs for Irbid Municipality building

IRBID (Petra) — An initial agreement has been concluded between Irbid Municipality and a West German firm to prepare designs and documents for the construction of a new municipality building in Irbid, prior to announcing a tender for local companies to undertake the projects, according to Irbid Mayor Abdul Razzak TUBEISHAT. The mayor said that an agreement on the project is expected to be signed with the German company by the end of this month.

Dr. Tubeishat said Irbid Municipality offices have been transferred to a rented building in the city to make way for demolishing the municipality building. The projected municipality, he said, is expected to house offices and will have an adjacent area to serve as a car park and a complex including a shopping centre, a public library, a conference hall and a cinema.

Health education seminar ends

AMMAN (Petra) — A three-day seminar on health education concluded in Amman on Monday with a recommendation for directing special attention to health education and upgrading health education section to divisions within the Primary Health Care Department.

Participants also called for reconsidering school curricula, particularly the curriculum of the elementary stage, and for holding similar seminars in the future.

Taking part in the seminar were 30 directors of Health Ministry departments and divisions all over the country.

Haj Hassan announces stricter clamp-down on illegal foreign workers

Security forces to check for permits at airports, borders
Measures aim to create opportunities for unemployed Jordanians

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Labour and Social Development Khalid Haj Hassan Monday said that the Labour Ministry has embarked on new arrangements and measures which aim to maintain control over the local labour market and which will also organise the employment of the foreign labour force in the country.

Speaking at a press conference, held at the Labour Ministry, Mr. Haj Hassan said the ministry will give non-Jordanian workers, who are presently working illegally in Jordan, and their employers a grace period ending on March 1 to rectify their situations in accordance with the Jordan labour legislations. By that time, Mr. Haj Hassan continued, violating workers should have left the country before the ministry, in cooperation with the security forces, starts to deport them.

The ministry is currently consulting and coordinating with the embassies whose nationals will be deported from Jordan and the concerned embassies will not authorise these workers to return to the Kingdom. The ministry, he said, will utilise public security staff stationed at airports and border points to check whether incoming workers abide by the rules and regulations in force in Jordan and whether they have valid work permits on their departure from the Kingdom. A special fine will be imposed on any worker whose passport upon departure is found to be unstamped with a work permit. This system will be particularly geared towards those people who have stayed for a long period of time in the country without obtaining the required permits.

Labour law revisions
The ministry has prepared a revision

used labour law under which institutions illegally employing non-Jordanians will have to pay a minimum fine of JD 100 for each month the workers remain without being in possession of a work permit. Under the new law, the minister added, work permit fees will be raised in order to control the labour market and to provide work opportunities for Jordanians.

The minister also said that the Labour Ministry has stopped issuing work permits or renewing invalid ones for certain jobs, including administrative work, accountancy, clerical posts, sales representatives, secretarial jobs and educational posts in addition to all other posts where there are Jordanians available to fill them.

The ministry has also stepped-up its inspections and has authorised teams to work after official working hours in order to cover all companies which may be employing non-Jordanian workers. These teams are also authorised to refer violating companies or institutions to the court. The new measures were prompted by the increasing number of jobless Jordanians who now number nearly 30,000 or six per cent of the total labour force in Jordan, Mr. Haj Hassan said.

Fewer foreign workers
He went on to say that the ministry

Major battles subside in South Yemen

(Continued from page 1)
exile in Moscow, as the political ideology.

Recapitulating the initial stage of the purported coup attempt, the rebel radio said that Mr. Mohammad was scheduled to attend a party meeting Jan. 13 when the president failed to show up.

Instead, presidential guardsmen entered the meeting hall and tried to machine gun the members of the party political bureau," the radio claimed, listing the four and the defence minister among those who had been present. "A shootout ensued, and two distinguished party members — Ali Assad Mathani and Ali Naji — were killed."

"Operating under the impression that his assassination bid was successful, Mohammad ordered the government radio to announce that the four leaders were executed."

"When he realised that he was wrong, Mohammad fled Aden."

It said the politburo was now heading the party committee and

political, military and security institutions, which had denounced Mr. Mohammad's bid to liquidate the leadership.

Sana'a's official news agency SABA said Sunday night fighting had ended in South Yemen after a peace committee met in the Soviet embassy in Aden.

Soviet, French and British vessels including the British royal yacht Britannia have evacuated some 3,000 foreigners, two-thirds of them Soviet nationals, from Aden since Friday.

Press reports in the Gulf say up to 9,000 people have been killed or wounded in the fighting, which involved tanks, gunboats and aircraft.

The Soviet Union, bound to South Yemen by a 20-year friendship and cooperation pact, has been spearheading efforts to secure a ceasefire to the vicious fighting that broke out Jan. 13.

North Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh, whose country enjoys good relations with both Moscow and Washington, has

appealed for an end to the fighting and invited rival leaders to a negotiating table in Sana'a.

Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat has ordered guerrillas in North Yemen and South Yemen to act as a disengagement and ceasefire supervision force between the two belligerents.

A politburo statement carried by the radio station thanked President Saleh for his efforts to end the crisis and said it was confident ties between the two neighbours would remain strong.

It also thanked the Soviet Union, Syria and the PLO for their "concern for the Yemeni people."

The radio said Sunday South Yemen would "tighten its strategic ties with socialist countries, especially its loyal ally the Soviet Union." It would also continue a foreign policy "based on peaceful coexistence with various political regimes and non-interference," it said.

Karami urges reforms despite opposition

(Continued from page 1)
have assumed control of the "Lebanese Forces" said Sunday, night only his militiamen would be allowed to carry arms in Christian areas.

In Syria, the government daily Tishrin broke an official media silence over the Christian power struggle, saying: "The trouble in Lebanon does not come from the country itself but is due to a virus coming from Israel and through its agents."

Mr. Geagea, who has had past links with Israel, used tanks and

artillery in last Wednesday's battles, forcing Mr. Hobeika and more than 50 of his colleagues to flee the country.

Rifts began to develop in the Christian camp last March when Mr. Geagea led the Lebanese Forces in revolt against the Falangist Party and refused to cooperate in a peace plan Mr. Gemayel agreed with Syria.

Mr. Geagea said at a meeting with Falangist Party officials on Monday that last week's blitzkrieg had been a continuation of the "March 12 uprising," the Voice of Lebanon radio station said.

It was not immediately clear if Falangist fighters who linked up with Mr. Geagea to defeat Mr. Hobeika would continue to obey the orders of Mr. Geagea, who was expelled from the party after the uprising. But Voice of Lebanon said Falangist leader Elie Karamah welcomed "returning comrades led by Dr. Geagea" and urged Christians to unite.

Police said PSP militiamen traded sniper fire and rocket-propelled grenades with army units loyal to Mr. Gemayel in the mountain town of Souk Al-Gharb, on Monday.

No casualties were reported from the mid-morning exchanges around the battered town that controls key roads from the central mountains to Mr. Gemayel's presidential palace in Baabda, eight kilometres east of the capital.

"I do believe that King Hussein is serious in his attempt to bridge over the differences at the source of the conflict," Peres said. "I do believe we made some headway, but there are still some important issues to be resolved."

One key question relating to the forum closely concerns The Netherlands, and Dutch officials suggested it may have been on the

agenda when Peres saw Mr. Lubbers.

Israel insists that the Soviet Union can have no role in the forum unless the two countries have diplomatic relations.

The Dutch have represented Israel's interests in Moscow since 1967 and have been heavily involved in the question of Jewish emigration on which Israel places high importance.

During his visit to Britain, Peres, the first Israeli prime minister to visit London since Menachem Begin in 1977, will meet Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and senior ministers and opposition leaders.

British officials said it was becoming daily more urgent to seek a Middle East breakthrough that would bring Israel, Jordan and representatives of the Palestinians to the negotiating table.

"The region might be approaching another historic turning point and we definitely regard Peres and King Hussein as essential to making progress," one British official told Reuters.

Peres' praise for King Hussein came during a news conference with Spanish Premier Felipe Gonzalez marking the establishment of diplomatic relations between Israel and Spain.

"I do believe that King Hussein is serious in his attempt to bridge over the differences at the source of the conflict," Peres said. "I do believe we made some headway, but there are still some important issues to be resolved."

Pulling out to go where?

By Rami G. Khouri

SEVERAL YEARS ago, the authorities in Bahrain rounded up a group of people said to have been plotting to overthrow the government. Around the same time, the Saudi Arabian government ended the armed takeover of the great mosque at Mecca. In Sudan last year, President Numeiri went on a trip overseas and never returned home, because his former colleagues overthrew him and assumed power. In Kuwait, the Emir was fortunate enough to emerge alive from an attempt on his life. In South Yemen ("Democratic Yemen", in the official appellation), thousands of people are killed or wounded in a week-long battle for control of the government. And in Lebanon, ten years of fighting have not brought about a power structure accepted by all parties.

One could go on and cite other examples. These are sufficient to indicate that in the Arab World there is a major problem in how political power is assumed, or transferred. The events in Aden are only the latest demonstration of this dilemma, which, to my mind, lies at the heart of the problems, vulnerabilities and deficiencies that challenge the Arab World today.

The nature and application of political power in the Arab World will probably be discussed more often in the coming decade than they were in the past decade, because of the slowdown in the oil-fueled spending spree that had engulfed us between 1974 and 1983. When governments have much money to play with, or hand out to their people, or use to build the things that people want (such as schools, hospitals, roads and water networks), all seems well.

The main point that most people then are generally interested in hearing from their government is: How much money do I get this year? In the free enterprise systems that govern about half the Arab World, the transfer of cash

wealth and creature comforts to the citizenry, from the earth's oil basins, is slightly more subtle. But when the flow of money slows down, or dries up, and the government has to start asking the people to make sacrifices, or do without some amenities that had been taken for granted for many years, the relationship between the governed and the governing may suddenly change.

This is the point we are at right now throughout the Arab World, whether in the oil-producing or

non-oil-producing states. Governments no longer have the unlimited capacity to throw money at every challenge that comes along. The state can no longer provide an annual budget that nearly equals a country's total gross domestic product, as happened in some Arab states in the 1970s. Instead of testing the citizenry's capacity to consume, spend, and absorb imports, Arab governments are now having to test their citizens' capacity to do with less, to do without, and generally to pay their way instead of enjoying a free ride.

In the short term, the Arab people are being subjected to an economic test. As national economies adjust to the post-boom era, people's spending and consuming habits have to adjust as well. But in the longer term, the test is ultimately a political one. It is a test of people's national sentiment, of their allegiance, and of their very identity.

Some people will complain that they should not sacrifice for their country if they have never been asked to participate in running their country. Others will say, to the contrary, that our governments have done much for us during the good years, and it is only right that we all squeeze our

belts to get through the bad years.

Precisely how people will respond to the changing economic fortunes of the Arab World remains to be seen. Some people's worries about the economic situation may lead them to question the political policies, or even the very legitimacy, of their government. In other cases, some Arab governments may take advantage of the economic downturn to forge closer links between those who make the decisions and those who obey them.

During the past two decades, the single greatest budgetary expenditure by the Arab states has been on military arms and forces, to maintain internal and external security. This has combined with a general increase in income to provide the long period of calm that has defined most Arab countries since 1969-70. We may be leaving this period of sustained calm, to embark on a new era of unknowns.

It is noteworthy that after defence spending, the second greatest expenditure item in Arab budgets since 1974 has been education. Therefore as the Arab World moves into a period of economic recession and perhaps even retrenchment, and continues to suffer

from political stalemate, if not defeat, with Israel, its citizens are better educated, more widely travelled and more accustomed to a rising material standard of life than ever before during this century. This is a sure recipe for change.

But what kind of change will come, and how will it be manifested, remain to be seen. During the second half of this century, the Arab World has dabbled with assorted ideologies and political movements (Baathism, Communism, Nasserism, Arab Nationalism, Palestinian Nationalism, Islamic Fundamentalism, ties with the United States, the Soviet Union or Israel) — but none has triumphed, or really succeeded. What will the Arab World look to now? What political formula will we dabble with next year?

The fighting in South Yemen this week is a sober reminder that the processes of political expression and the mechanisms for political change in the Arab World remain unstable, unclear, and, therefore, often unmerciful. The decade between the mid-seventies and the mid-eighties showed us that such fundamental political dilemmas can be pushed aside for quite a long while by the magical

effect of money, and all the things that money can buy. The present decade, from the mid-eighties to the mid-nineties — defined by less money, more education and a rising level of political frustration and even agony of the Arabian soul — will probably take us in a new, uncharted direction.

I am not rash enough to predict if this will mean more violence against established political/social/economic orders, or more acquiescence by the public in public orders which they perceive to be acceptable, commendable, or inevitable. What I do suggest is that the past three years have provided clear signs and warnings that all is not as calm as it appears on the surface of the Arab World. The propensity to violence has escalated madly in the Arab World, at a time when we were widely spending money to build a better future for our children. How does one explain this apparent dichotomy?

Perhaps we should leave it to history to explain it. But we could give history a hand by starting to address these questions ourselves, in public, in all honesty — while we are still pulling out of the mid-eighties.

Choose your Shimon

ISRAELI Prime Minister Shimon Peres, during his current visit to The Netherlands, has been making positive noises about the prospects of launching Arab-Israeli peace talks. He singled out the two main unresolved issues as the structuring of an international forum for peace talks, and the representation of the Palestinians. It would appear that the Israelis and Americans are coming around to the idea of an international context for peace negotiations, whether this is called a conference, a context, an aegis, a framework or a jamboree of the Children of Abraham.

The question of Palestinian representation is more difficult, for the Arab perception does not always distinguish between substantive and procedural issues in this respect. From the Arab perspective, for the Israelis and Americans to refuse to accept the PLO as a negotiating partner is more or less to refuse the principles that the PLO stands for: Palestinian self-determination as an inalienable right, to be exercised by the Palestinians, in Palestine. So while we are delighted to hear Mr. Peres make encouraging noises about the chances of launching peace talks, we would be even more delighted — and convinced — if he would affirm that peace will come to the land of Palestine only when the Israelis and the Palestinians enjoy equal rights in that land. Therefore, we find it peculiar that the same man who puffs on the Middle East peace pipe with such apparent conviction should also tell a memorial ceremony for Dutch Jews who died during the Nazi occupation of The Netherlands that "the Palestinian problem stems from terrorism."

Which Shimon Peres is the real one? The one who wants to negotiate a fair peace, or the one who views the Palestinian problem as stemming from terrorism? Even a slick politician such as he cannot be all things to all people. If there is a peace-maker trying to come out of the politician, this is the time to emerge.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Rai: The losers and the winners

A week has now passed since the breakout of the bloody struggle for power in South Yemen, brought about by differences among the leaders of the ruling party. So far, no confirmed report have come out from Aden about the real causes behind the fighting that left so many innocent people dead or wounded and left a large-scale of destruction. A week passed and no Arab country volunteered to mediate among the leaders to help them settle their dispute in a more civilised manner and so prevent bloodshed. No serious effort on the part of any Arab government has emerged to save the people of South Yemen from tragedy and ruin. The warring groups within the ruling party have been settling their differences at the expense of their own people and their economy, and also at the expense of Arab aspirations and strength. What happened over the past week is a confirmation that the Arab people in general and the South Yemenis in particular are the only losers of internal strife and bloody struggles, and that the only winners and beneficiaries are the common enemies of the Arab World.

Al Dustour: Restore democracy

IT looks as though the tragedy in South Yemen has come to an end or about to, now that one of the conflicting parties has achieved victory over the other. But the outlook for South Yemen seems to be grim because that country is poor and because the destruction caused by the street fighting is so great that it will take years to restore stability and put the country back on its feet. The price which the South Yemeni people have paid for the lack of democracy in their country is great, and they have now to learn from this lesson and to restore democratic institutions that can maintain stability to their country. The people of South Yemen should not be forced to pay the price of difference and disputes among the country's leaders and such differences should not be settled through the force of arms or through arming the tribes of South Yemen to enlist their help whenever a conflict among these leaders arises. The South Yemeni people should take a lesson from what has happened in their country, and should remove all elements of dispute that still exist and which are bound to trigger another such conflict any time in the future.

Sawt Al Shaab: Stop the fight

THE civil strife in South Yemen seems so intense, reflecting the deep differences among the various factions of the ruling party. The struggle seems to be so ferocious that all foreigners had to leave the country after all efforts of Soviet diplomats failed to achieve any fruitful results. We do not know as yet about the real causes of the bloody struggle for power and what caused such conflict to surface at this critical time when the Arab Nation is involved in attempts to end the Gulf war and restore peace to Lebanon, and as the Arabs are appalled at Israel's continued acts of aggression on the holy places in Jerusalem. The bloody events in South Yemen must have been triggered by forces hostile to the Arab Nation. But we had hoped that a wise Arab leader would interfere and put an end to the bloody conflict among brothers whose country is now threatened with destruction. We still hope that some kind of mediation would put an end to the tragedy of the South Yemeni people. Arab mediators should step in and freeze this mad war that all efforts by the Soviets have been confronted with unsurmountable obstacles.

Arab-U.S. links weakened by Washington policies

By John Rogers
Reuter

CAIRO — President Reagan's moves against Libya have further eroded support for U.S. policies in the Arab World, angered by what the Arabs see as Washington's unwavering support of Israel and one-sided approach to Middle East issues.

Arab and Islamic countries have publicly sided with Tripoli, although some have disputes with Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi. The independent newspaper Le Temps of Tunisia, a country which broke relations with Libya last year, said the trial of strength between Reagan and Qadhafi illustrated "the constant deterioration of relations between America and the Arab World."

The United States has deeper ties with more countries in the crescent stretching from Morocco to Oman than the Soviet Union, and diplomats say it continues to wield more influence in this region long beset by superpower rivalry.

But they say there is growing exasperation in the Arab World over Washington's close partnership with Israel, which the Arabs view as the driving force behind U.S. Middle East policy.

Arab countries, particularly Jordan and Egypt which have tried in recent months to set up Middle East peace talks, are frustrated by U.S. refusal to deal directly with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), which agreed last February to negotiate jointly with Jordan.

While Israel supported U.S. economic sanctions against Libya, accused by Washington of backing terrorist groups after last month's Rome and Vienna airport attacks, Arab commentators said Reagan had made Qadhafi a hero and won him sympathy.

Since American troops were forced to withdraw from Lebanon in 1984 the U.S. administration has suffered a series of diplomatic setbacks, aggravated by its failure to advance the Middle East peace process and to push arms deals with key Arab countries through Congress.

Syria, which is close to Moscow, is now the powerbroker in Lebanon. The Soviet Union last year established diplomatic ties with Oman and the United Arab Emirates (UAE), and other pro-Western states are turning to Moscow for arms. Qadhafi himself says Libya could become the Cuba of the Middle East.

China, the other Communist giant, is also raising its profile in the Middle East.

Arab countries, particularly Jordan and Egypt which have tried in recent months to set up Middle East peace talks, are frustrated by U.S. refusal to deal directly with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), which agreed last February to negotiate jointly with Jordan.

Washington says the PLO must recognise Israel first. Both the United States and Israel are resisting Arab proposals for an international peace conference that would give Moscow a direct say.

Efforts to revive the peace process foundered on this deadlock and on a rash of violence, which forced governments to worry more about immediate security

than long-term peace.

There was an outcry in the Arab World over Washington's initial support for Israel's October 1 air raid on PLO targets in Tunis, which killed 67 people, in retaliation for the murder of three Israelis in Cyprus.

Washington which earlier hailed the raid later denounced it, but the damage was done. A senior Tunisian official commented privately: "We hope relations will return to much the same level as before, but my conviction is that they will never be quite the same again."

The U.S. also offended Egypt, last October when it forced down an Egyptian plane carrying the hijackers of the Italian liner Achille Lauro, though ill-feeling has since subsided. Egypt is the largest recipient of U.S. aid after Israel, worth nearly \$2.5 billion last year.

Repeated use by the United States of its veto right in the U.N. Security Council to block resolutions against Israel, like one last week deploring Israeli actions in south Lebanon, is another major irritant.

UAE president Sheikh Zaid Bin Sultan Al Nahayan said recently: "The U.S. should abandon its policy in the Middle East if it wants to preserve its friends and interests in the region."

Reuter correspondents report from other Arab capitals:

DA MASCUS — Syrian Vice-President Abdul Halim Khaddam says relations with Washington are "uncordial" and cannot improve unless the U.S. takes a neutral stand in the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Commenting on the latest U.S. veto in the Security Council, Damascus radio said this weekend: "Washington... is a declared foe of the Arabs, peace and security in the region and a primary instigator for official terrorism (by Israel)."

AMMAN — Jordan's relations with Moscow warm up each time it has problems obtaining arms from the U.S. Western diplomats say.

Jordan last year threatened to seek Soviet arms if a \$1.9 billion arms package was not approved by the U.S. Congress, which has linked the deal to Jordan entering into direct talks with Israel by March 1. This was widely seen as an unrealistic deadline.

RABAT — Washington has cooled traditional close ties with Morocco since it signed a treaty of union with Libya in 1984. Diplomats say the U.S. is not convinced by King Hassan's view that he could have a moderating influence on Qadhafi.

Diplomats say recent visits to Moscow by senior Saudi officials are a way of telling Washington that Riyadh could, if it wanted, turn to the Soviet Union.

KUWAIT — Resentment lingers over U.S. refusal in 1984 to sell Stinger anti-aircraft missiles. Kuwait, whose relations with the Soviet Union go back to 1963, has since sealed an arms deal with Moscow and has just hosted a Soviet defence team.

Diplomats in the Gulf region say the UAE and Oman would not have established diplomatic relations with Moscow if Saudi Arabia had not given its blessing.

They say Saudi Arabia, despite growing disenchantment with U.S. policy, does not plan to resume ties with Moscow which it suspended in the 1930s.



Gorbachev has seized initiative with arms proposals

By William Scally
Reuter

WASHINGTON — Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, in setting a timetable for the abolition of nuclear weapons, has seized the initiative in the contest for public opinion on President Ronald Reagan's "Star Wars" space-based missile defence plan.

On the record, Reagan is committed to an effort to make nuclear weapons impotent and obsolete by building a space shield against them, a project formally known as the Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI).

Gorbachev has said he wants to get rid of nuclear weapons entirely — providing the United States drops SDI.

He sweetened his wide-ranging arms control plan by tossing back to Reagan the U.S. "Zero Option" proposal under which medium-range weapons in Europe would be scrapped. He also pledged Moscow's readiness to accept on-site inspections to verify its compliance with arms control agreements.

The plan, made public a day before U.S.-Soviet arms negotiations resumed in Geneva last week, took the Reagan administration by surprise and put it on the defensive.

Reagan, apparently seeing the need to give a positive response despite the many unanswered questions about the plan, said he

was grateful for the offer.

Secretary of State George Shultz said the Soviet plan was "part of the struggle for public opinion" and that its release showed Moscow's desire to get maximum propaganda impact.

He said the United States would seek to build on aspects it regarded as positive, including Gorbachev's desire to rid the world of nuclear weapons under a 15-year timetable.

Administration spokesmen did not publicly address the proposition that elimination of nuclear weapons would leave the West highly vulnerable to superior Soviet conventional forces in Europe.

Many experts on arms control, both inside and outside the ad-

ministration, viewed the Gorbachev plan as a new twist in a Soviet effort to scrap SDI.

SDI is widely regarded here as the catalyst for a major public Soviet shift on arms control — from a refusal to accept major cuts in nuclear arsenals, to a plan for a 50 per cent cut, to a proposal to scrap them by the year 2000.

Throughout, Reagan has stuck to his cherished dream of a space-based defence, refusing to consider it a bargaining chip in negotiations with Moscow.

Some arms control experts, highly sceptical of SDI from the start, are now suggesting that further refusal to give on this issue could be counterproductive, and that now is the time to make a deal on the "Star Wars" project.

Reagan insists the project is a research plan only. Gorbachev has at times indicated he would accept research but at other times has flatly opposed any SDI programme.

In his statement last week he called for "mutual renunciation of the development, testing and deployment of space strike arms" — Moscow's label for SDI.

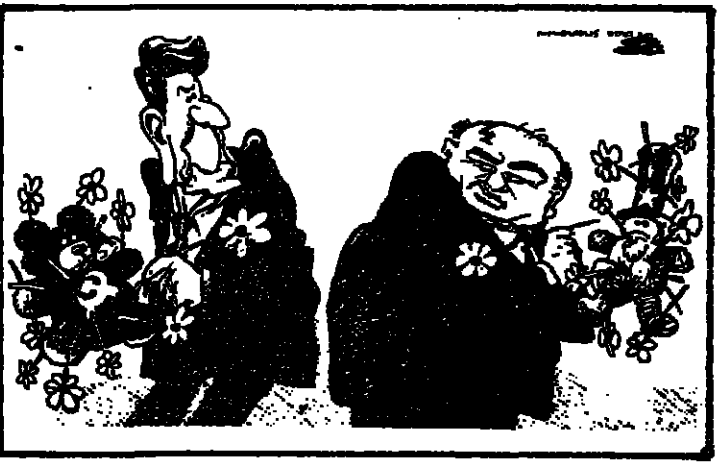
By calling for the scrapping of nuclear weapons, Gorbachev appeared to be appealing to the same sector of public opinion that supports SDI.

At the same time, he was seen as making a powerful pitch for European public opinion by proposing liquidation of missiles facing each other across Europe.

The proposal matches the 1981 U.S. "Zero-Option" which called for the Soviet Union to destroy its new SS-20 and other older missiles in return for the United States foregoing deployment of Pershing 2 and Cruise missiles in West Europe.

In the latest proposals, Gorbachev for the first time did not demand that the Soviet Union keep enough SS-20s to match British and French missiles — a provision that has stalled the medium-range missile talks.

Gorbachev's proposal referred to "liquidation of Soviet and U.S. missiles in the European zone." The United States wants "global" restrictions on SS-20s that would limit missiles in the Asian part of the Soviet Union.



Is China's honeymoon with Deng over?

By Graham Earnshaw
Reuter

PEKING — China's long honeymoon with top leader Deng Xiaoping finally seems to be over and a string of problems have tarnished his aura of invincibility. Western diplomats say.

The problems, including inflation, corruption amongst Communist Party officials and economic difficulties, have put Deng and his reformists very much on the defensive in the cut and thrust of Chinese politics.

One indication of how seriously Deng's group views the situation was the large meeting held earlier this month at which the leadership emphasised that despite some setbacks, the basic reform policies laid down by Deng remain in place.

"The honeymoon period has faded," said one Western diplomat. "It was a long honeymoon, but eventually the glamour wears off and the memory of Deng as the returning hero fades."

Deng, 81, returned to power seven years ago and has dominated China ever since, pushing forward with his plans to open the country to the outside world, to

reform its unwieldy economy and clean out Maoist remnants from the ruling party.

But price rises of food and other daily necessities last year, aimed at lessening the burden of price subsidies on the government, caused widespread discontent in the cities and contributed to a rare bout of student unrest.

The hot topic of the moment is corruption amongst party officials.

Politburo member Hu Qili was quoted on Jan. 19 official press as saying that all guilty officials should be arrested no matter how senior and some should be executed as an example.

The difficulties being experienced by Deng and his people did not amount to a political challenge. The opposition, they say, is nowhere near strong enough to effect any fundamental policy changes.

But the problems have forced Deng and his people to declare 1986 as a year of "consolidation" to allow the country to digest the innovations introduced last year with varying degrees of success.

Premier Zhao Ziyang assured the nation last week that there would be no new price re-

adjustments this year, and efforts are being made to control the unplanned capital construction which has caused much of the inflation.

Grain production dropped last year, which is something of a political problem for Deng because of memories of the late chairman Mao Tse-tung's insistence that grain production was all that mattered in agriculture.

Vice-Premier Tian Jiyun admitted at the meeting of 8,000 that grain supplies might be tight in some areas of the country as a result of the reduction, but pointed out that output was still up 27 per cent over 1980.

Foreign trade has also gone far from well in the past year with exports stagnant and imports soaring, cutting heavily into China's precious foreign exchange reserves.

But Western diplomats say Deng seems to have this and other problems basically under control for the moment.

"Consolidation is the right thing for them to do this year," said one diplomat. "They certainly have enough to digest to last them four or five years, what with the price and wage reforms and re-

adjustments." On the corruption front, Deng and his people took the wind out of the opposition sails early this month by forming a three-man anti-corruption group, quickly dubbed the "Gang of Three" by sections of the Peking press corps.

Significantly, the group reports to the party secretariat, controlled by the Dengists, and not to the party's disciplinary commission which features many people believed to oppose Deng's policies.

"It remains to be seen whether all the recent publicity on the anti-corruption campaign will translate into any concrete progress," said one diplomat. "There has been little action so far."

"What they need is a senior official scapegoat, perhaps a vice-minister, to indicate to lower levels that no one will be immune from prosecution. But they haven't found one yet," he added.

Meanwhile, China's party-controlled media continues to churn out exposures of bureaucratic corruption and fraud. But cynicism amongst ordinary Chinese people that the party will protect its own remains widespread.

Barefoot and out of favour

Bangladesh's barefoot doctors are fighting for official registration as licensed medical practitioners. But successive governments have cut back on their training and funding, instead throwing support to untrained healers and "quacks". Nurul Huda, a senior correspondent for the Bangladesh Observer, is Earthscan's correspondent for Bangladesh.

DHAKA, Bangladesh — If you fall ill in Bangladesh, and you live in the city, you could find yourself queuing behind about 9,000 other people waiting to see the doctor. Queues in the countryside are even longer. Despite this, funds for an ambitious "barefoot doctor" programme have been slashed.

Launched by assassinated president Ziaur Rahman in 1979, a Bangladesh primary health care programme aimed to train 65,000 "barefoot doctors" — or barefoot doctors — one for each of the country's 65,000 villages, by the year 2000.

To be accepted for training, candidates had to possess either a secondary school certificate, or eight years formal schooling plus five years of experience practising traditional medicine. A quota system meant that half of those admitted to the training programme were practising traditional healers, 25 per cent were secondary school graduates, and 25 per cent were women with either of these qualifications.

Those seeking admission had to pledge to work for at least five years in their villages. Once accepted, they received classroom and on-the-job training from gra-

duate doctors and a monthly living allowance. On completion of the course they were equipped with a medical kitbag.

Nurul Huda Mostafa, a barefoot doctor practising in Gaibanda district describes his work: "I prescribe simple medicines including low-dose antibiotics, but refer serious cases to the graduate doctors. I can earn between four and six dollars per day."

All but 400 of the 3,380 students who have completed the three-year training course have been employed in government rural health services. About 4,000 health sub-centres are being developed by the Health and Family Planning Department. They are meant to provide employment for over 3,500 barefoot doctors. Additional employment opportunities were to be created in each of 460 sub-district health complexes.

The budget for the programme was \$13 million, with the funds coming from a variety of national and international aid agencies. A recent U.S. Agency for International Development evaluation praised the programme, noting that "Palichikitshaks have been well accepted by the village people." But in spite of their success, the fate of the barefoot doc-

tors is uncertain.

On the pretext of a shortage of funds, the programme was abandoned in 1982 when President Zia seized power. Over 3,000 trainees were not given their allowance money, and over 1,500 graduates were not provided with kitbags. Then, when Lieutenant-General H.M. Ershad succeeded Zia as president, 10 out of 18 training schools were shut down.

Some of the barefoot doctors, worried by the prospect of increased competition for business from new have argued against a resumption of the full training programme. But the annual number of graduates from the remaining aid-sponsored training schools is only 300, not enough to fill the demand for professional medical care for the 95 million-strong population of Bangladesh.

Despite their three-year course, the present government has refused to allow palichikitshaks to register as licensed professionals, thus placing them on the same footing as untrained healers and "quacks." The Bangladesh "Palichikitshaks Samity" (Association of Barefoot Doctors) has long been demanding registration, re-introduction of the course, government jobs, higher training, refresher courses and social recognition.

The demand for registration is very genuine, based as it is on the previous government's commitment and the fact that the course examinations were conducted



Bangladesh: a barefoot doctor equipped with medical kitbag, awaits his patients (Photo Nurul Huda — Earthscan)

by the State Medical Faculty, says Dr. Shamsul Islam, director of the barefoot programme.

Sabuj Ali, president of the barefoot doctors' association, explains some of the difficulties encountered due to lack of formal registration: "Our doctors are being harassed every day by the officials of the Drug Administration for possession of some medicine without a licence."

For the moment, the palichikitshaks appear to be their battle for official

recognition, with the government preferring to throw its support behind untrained healers and quacks.

Some 28,000 of the country's 60,000 untrained healers have organised themselves under "Gram Dakter Samity" (Association of Rural Practitioners).

According to association head Abdus Sattar, "Our main demand for recognition as rural medical practitioners has been accepted. The government has also sanctioned some money for the con-

struction of an office for our association."

Bangladesh's eight medical schools turn out 1,000 graduate doctors each year at high cost.

Regulations stipulate that all newly graduated doctors must serve in rural areas for at least one year. On a variety of pretexts, most doctors are able to avoid this service. Barefoot doctors, vitally needed, can fill the gap — but only if government policy towards them takes a more benevolent turn — Earthscan feature.

Tobacco kills 1m people each year

By Claude Fillet
Reuters

GENEVA — The thorn issue of smoking and health is top of the agenda again at the World Health Organisation (WHO) following a report that says at least one million people around the world die prematurely each year because of tobacco.

The report, prepared for a current meeting of WHO's executive board, said 600,000 new cases of lung cancer occur worldwide every year, most of them due to smoking, and forecasts the number may reach two million by 2000.

Some of the figures in the report are startling. Among them: — Smoking is responsible for about 90 per cent of all cases of lung cancer and for one third of all cancers.

It accounts for 75 per cent of chronic bronchitis and 25 per cent of heart diseases.

Smokers around the world spent between \$85 and \$100 billion a year to buy a total 4,000 billion cigarettes — more than 1,000 cigarettes for each man, woman and child.

The Geneva-based body's report points to the prevalence of smoking-related diseases in both the developed and developing world.

In the United States, 25 per cent of all deaths can be attributed to the consequences of smoking, compared with five per cent linked to alcohol.

Between 1956 and 1980, three million Americans died prematurely from heart disease due to smoking, the report said, adding "unless smoking habits of the American population change, as many as 10 per cent of all people now alive may die prematurely of a heart disease attributable to their smoking."

Lung cancer in the U.S. is catching up with breast cancer as the leading cause of cancer death in women.

Similar trends are appearing in developing countries, and cardiovascular diseases have already become one of the major causes of

death in China, Malaysia, Mauritius and Sri Lanka.

The report denounced what it calls massive exports of cigarettes from European tobacco companies to famine-stricken African countries.

In 1984, these firms sold over one billion cigarettes to Burkina Faso, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Niger, Somalia and Sudan which "have to be paid for in hard currencies that these countries lack," the report said.

But while tobacco consumption is decreasing in industrial countries at 1.1 per cent per year, it is rising by 2.1 per cent in the Third World, the report disclosed.

In the United States, the proportion of smokers has declined from 42 per cent to 33 per cent between 1965 and 1980 and altogether some 33 million Americans or about a third of all smokers have quit since 1970.

The report, rejecting tobacco companies' claims, said that low-tar cigarettes are far from being safe.

"Most smokers will not tolerate for very long low nicotine or nicotine-free cigarettes as substitutes for the real thing," it said. Instead, they compensate for lower levels of nicotine in their blood stream by inhaling more often or smoking more cigarettes.

Among measures to combat the problem, who suggested banning tobacco advertising and the sponsorship of sports and cultural events by the tobacco industry.

The report indicated tobacco promotion is supported by about \$2 billion around the world each year.

Although noting that tobacco is produced in 120 countries and provides an income for 35 million small farmers worldwide, the report said that smoking places "an enormous burden on the community by the costs of the consequent ill health and mortality."

Smoking-related losses, including increased medical expenditure, exceed earnings from tobacco production by some \$8 billion a year in the United States and by an annual \$3 billion in Canada.

Salvador security forces step up torture

By Robert Block
Reuters

SAN SALVADOR — After six years of civil war, torture of suspected leftists by El Salvador's security forces has become more refined yet it is still increasing, according to human rights groups, church officials, lawyers and political prisoners.

They say sleep deprivation, beatings, rape and electric shocks continue despite the claims of the U.S.-backed government to have moved away from methods that gave the forces a reputation as corrupt and repressive.

"We are sorry to say that inhuman interrogations and treatment of those captured and accused of political crimes appear to be on the rise," El Salvador's Roman Catholic auxiliary Bishop, Gregorio Rosa Chavez, told a group of church leaders recently.

President Jose Napoleon Duarte, a self-proclaimed champion of human rights, vowed to stop the torture and abuses of authority which characterised the armed forces when he came to power 19 months ago.

Human rights groups here said the use of cruel and unusual interrogation methods dropped off somewhat during Duarte's first 10 months in office, but only long enough for the police to change their methods.

Now, they say, security forces have shifted from the pure brutality of physical techniques such as ripping off finger nails to more subtle and sophisticated means to extract information or confessions from suspects.

"There is no doubt that the type of interrogation methods have changed," Maria Julia Fernandez, director of the Roman Catholic Church's human rights monitoring

agency, Tutela Legal, told Reuters.

"There are still electric shocks and beatings, but what is most common now is that they (the police) don't let him (the suspect) sleep. This is a more refined type of torture."

She added that sleep deprivation was usually accompanied by death threats against the suspect's family, mock executions and dousings with freezing cold water.

One doctor, who asked not to be identified, has treated political prisoners and documented the use of sleep deprivation, which he says can lead to long-term psychological complications.

According to a spokesman for the New York-based human rights monitoring group, Americas Watch, at least two suspected leftist guerrillas held by El Salvador's national police committed suicide

as a result of sleep deprivation.

One lawyer who represents 30 political prisoners said torture depended on the importance of the suspect and individual's resistance.

The lawyer, who spoke on condition that his identity be withheld, said women captured by the police were almost always raped during interrogation.

At the Ilopango women's prison just outside the capital, many women carry around small children, the result, they say, of treatment by members of the security forces.

Other prisoners interviewed by Reuters at the men's La Esperanza prison told of being deprived of food and sleep, as well as other forms of mistreatment.

Santos Martinez Garcia, 32, a former chauffeur for the American embassy human rights off-

icer in El Salvador and an open sympathizer with the country's leftist rebels, said he was picked up by the Treasury Police — one of the three security forces — last September.

He said he was blindfolded, beaten repeatedly and deprived of sleep for 12 days until "I was nearly mad." He also said he received electric shocks on his ears, nose and genitals.

"But worst of all," he said, "was the capucha."

The capucha is a canvas sack placed over a suspect's head and made air-tight by a rope about the neck. Santos said that powdered lime was placed inside the sack to burn his lungs as he gasped for oxygen.

He said he eventually signed a confession that he was a rebel working in the capital, which he now denies.

The three security forces — the Treasury Police, the National Guard and National Police — have been the focus of concern from many quarters, including the United States, about their human rights abuses in the past.

U.S. embassy officials now say they believe the army and security forces have made vast improvements in their human rights record and are on the way to making lasting changes.

Other diplomats, however, said the changes were temporary and were aimed at improving their image with the U.S. Congress, a tactical move to retain American aid.

One human rights monitoring agency official said: "They do not have to worry about human rights any more. Military credits have been guaranteed for them for the next two years."

Central America marks world's fastest military growth

By Bernd Debusmann
Reuters

MEXICO CITY — Central America is setting world military growth records as the bloody conflicts of the region defy peaceful solutions.

Five years ago, when President Reagan declared he would "draw the line against Communism" in Central America, the six Spanish-speaking republics of the area had regular armed forces totalling just under 60,000. Insurgent groups were estimated at around 6,700.

Today, military experts in the region and the authoritative London-based Institute of Strategic Studies (ISS) estimate regular forces at almost 175,000 and rebel groups at around 33,000.

In total, the number of men under arms rose more than threefold, from 66,000 to more than

200,000. "No other area in the world has experienced such a rapid process of militarisation," said a Western military expert. "Not even the Middle East had a growth rate as high."

In the Middle East, one of the world's perennial trouble spots, armed forces grew from around 1.8 million to 2.6 million.

Diplomats in the area say there is no doubt that Washington's view of Central America as part of a global confrontation with Communism was a key element in the militarisation of what were once best known as banana republics.

In Washington's view, the Soviet Union is using Nicaragua as an instrument to spread left-wing revolution throughout Central America, to Mexico and finally to the United States.

To counter this perceived threat, the Reagan administration

has provided its allies in Central America with millions of dollars worth of military assistance while at the same time helping to raise an insurgent army which is fighting for the overthrow of the left-wing Nicaraguan government.

In turn, the Soviet Union provided generous assistance to the ruling Sandinista National Liberation Front (FSLN) as it built the Nicaraguan army into the biggest in Central America.

Moscow provided tanks, armoured personnel carriers, artillery pieces, anti-aircraft guns, helicopter gunships, and naval patrol boats. But the Soviets stopped short of delivering the MiG fighter aircraft whose arrival Washington has said it would not tolerate.

As a consequence, military experts say, Nicaragua still has the smallest air force in the region — no match for the air forces of

Honduras or El Salvador, close U.S. allies.

While civil wars in El Salvador and Guatemala have been exacting a steady toll of death and destruction, Latin American diplomats consider the war in Nicaragua the most dangerous.

It also provides the most graphic illustration of military growth in Central America.

In 1981, according to the latest ISS survey, the Nicaraguan forces totalled 6,700 men. Armed opposition to the Sandinistas consisted of a few hundred men of the budding National Democratic Front (FDN).

Today, the army is approaching 64,000 men. The U.S.-backed FDN is estimated to field 12,000 and 15,000 guerrillas whose arsenal ranges from up-to-date anti-aircraft missiles.

One of them, a Soviet-made Sam 7, was used to shoot down a Nicaraguan military helicopter in December. The Sandinistas promptly claimed the weapon had been channelled to the rebels by the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) and constituted another escalation of the war.

The increase in the number of men fighting each other in Nicaragua, from less than 7,000 to almost 80,000, contrasts sharply with public declarations from all sides on the need to curb military growth in Central America.

In El Salvador, where the United States is spending more than a million dollars a day to prop up the government, the army quadrupled in size to some 44,000 while left-wing guerrillas are estimated to have doubled their forces since 1981.

Central America's mil-

itarisation dates back to the 1979 revolution in Nicaragua which toppled right-wing dictator Anastasio Somoza, long Washington's closest ally in the region.

The U.S. soon began accusing the victorious Sandinistas of running an arms pipeline to the leftists in El Salvador and of fomenting trouble elsewhere.

Originally, the administration said its support for anti-Sandinista guerrillas based in Honduras was to cut the pipeline.

But the presence of the rebels in camps along the Nicaraguan border had no visible effect on the war in El Salvador and the guerrillas themselves never accepted Washington's argument.

"We always fought to liberate Nicaragua," FDN military chief Enrique Bermudez insisted recently, "and we will continue to fight until victory."

United States produces modern Medicis

Under the administration of President Ronald Reagan, government support for the arts in the U.S. has declined in real terms. This has resulted in increasing arts sponsorship by large companies seeking "more bang for their buck," says Frank Lipscomb reports.

NEW YORK — President Reagan once described his administration's limited arts policy as "doing everything we can to encourage growing private support for the arts." He has been true to his word. Direct government subsidy through the National Endowment for the Arts was cut from \$159 million in 1981 to \$143 million in 1982; before Congress restored the endowment's budget to \$166 million in 1986, after several years of inflation.

Throwing the burden onto the private sector has its intended effect, with business increasing its arts contributions to \$600 million in 1984 from \$506 million in 1982, according to the Business Committee for the Arts, a New York organisation founded in the late 1960s to encourage the Media-Instinct among American business leaders.

But with the increased responsibility, business leaders also want more credit for their largesse.

"They want more bang for their buck," says David Resnickow, senior vice-president of Arts & Communications Counselors, a private public-relations company that advises corporations on how to tie arts donations to corporate marketing and advertising — and, increasingly, to museums.

to attract corporate sponsors.

Instead of giving unrestricted gifts, corporations now have special cultural officers in their marketing and public relations departments to co-ordinate manifestations with general corporate marketing and public relations objectives. At Philip Morris, the tobacco and packaged goods conglomerate, the manager of cultural affairs, Stephanie French, is one of a group of five within the four-dozen-strong corporate affairs office. Susan Bloom, vice-president for cultural affairs at American Express, works in the 10-strong public relations office.

In direct grants, American Express is giving \$14 million to the arts in 1986 with 40 major activities and 60 local ones. The company is also leading the way in "cause-related marketing," the latest idea to make corporate largesse profitable, or at least get clients to chip in as part of a company's gift-giving.

In the town of Peoria, Illinois, American Express gave away tickets for an exhibition of Grandma Moses paintings to people who bought travellers' cheques. The sponsorship helped generate a record-breaking attendance.

In London last year, the company used its card-holders' magazine to offer tickets to a concert

by the Preservation Hall Jazz Band during the American Festival. The offer sold out the house, with 4,000 seats booked on American Express cards. Though meant originally as a good-will gesture it was such a success that the marketing arm of American Express is bringing the band back to London next summer for profit.

The company is actively promoting the new Fort Lauderdale Museum because it is in a community where 4,000 American Express workers process credit-card transactions.

To help raise 3 1/2 million for the museum, American Express is giving free passes to people who charge meals at 17 local restaurants on their American Express cards.

Among people who carry multiple credit cards, such tie-ins are the most effective way to encourage use of the American Express card, from which the company makes much of its money.

In sponsoring specific exhibitions, companies are able to court a city's elite. David Resnickow has built a clientele of two dozen companies with the notion that "supporting the arts gives access to a community's opinion leaders, the movers and shakers."

The board of any institution — opera, ballet, the symphony — are the local civic and political leaders who shape a community. You buy direct contact with these people. The sponsors can gain additional advantage from organising the once sedate and dignified meals

which museums throw for a show's donors.

For Stephanie French at Philip Morris, the company's acquisition spree in recent years (including Miller Beer, 7-Up and, most recently, General Foods) has widened the scope of its cultural programme to include events in a dozen "plant communities," such as St. Louis, Milwaukee, Richmond, and Louisville.

As part of its annual sponsorship of exhibitions and performances, Philip Morris has, for instance, given \$300,000 for the Alvin Ailey Dance Company, and \$150,000 in the fifth year of support for the Joffrey Ballet's dance season. The direct grants come from a fund representing a fixed but undisclosed percentage of the company's profits.

Philip Morris supplements the grants with an equal expenditure in advertising and marketing of its divisions. It uses the slogan, "It takes art to make a company great."

At Arts and Communications Counselors, a division of the large Ruder Finn and Rotman public relations concern, David Resnickow reckons that the Business Committee for the Arts' \$600 million estimate of corporate donations is only about a third of the real cost of corporate arts support, if advertising, marketing and salaries are taken into account.

— Financial Times news feature

The Egyptian example

The Prophet & the Pharaoh: Muslim extremism in Egypt By Gilles Kepel, Al-Saqi Books, London 1985.

By Prabhu S. Gupta

OVER THE last few years Islam has been in the headlines due to a resurgence that the modern West finds difficult to understand. But religious resurgence is not limited to Islam: the reassertion of Christianity in the West, of traditional religions in Africa and India, and of Buddhism in Sri Lanka and South East Asia are parallel if not exactly similar developments.

Keipel's account makes no attempt to impose any preconceived pattern on events, revealing the contradictory and antagonistic varieties of the movement. He justifies this on the grounds that the disconcerting effect of such an account will be helpful: "One must allow oneself to be disorientated if one is to appreciate the full richness of the Islamicist movement."

In his concluding and more interpretive chapter, Kepel, draws attention to the remarkable way in which the movement has replaced even the Marxist and other Socialist groups to become the prime leader of the dissatisfied groups of Egyptian society. However, he maintains that the state has defeated all the various attempts of Islamicist militants to confront the regime directly.

to Islamicist ideas. In Kepel's view, the Egyptian example therefore "stands as a kind of paradigm against which other manifestations of Islamicism can be measured."

The bulk of the book consists of a very full account of the varying fortunes of the Muslim Brotherhood. It records its increasing appeal up to the point that Nasser smashed its largest branch, its reconstitution and success in articulating social dissatisfaction, and the building up of its membership until it was attacked again following the assassination of President Sadat.

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New Soviet play goes behind the scenes in Kennedy White House

By Oliver Wates
Reuters

MOSCOW — President John Kennedy makes an appearance on the Moscow stage this week as an anguished figure fighting off the hard-liners in his administration to avert nuclear war over the 1962 Cuban missile crisis.

A new drama by well-known Soviet playwright Fyodor Burlatsky, titled "The Burden of Decision", goes behind the scenes at the Kennedy White House.

After an hour and three-quarters filled with the imminent threat of a holocaust, the young U.S. president negotiates a secret peace agreement with the Soviet embassy in Washington, through his brother Robert.

The play, seen at a preview performance, also hints strongly that Kennedy's assassination in 1963 was engineered by right-wingers angry at his refusal to pursue a hard line against the Communist government of Cuba.

The cast is full of key figures from the Kennedy administration: Vice-President Lyndon Johnson, Secretary of State Dean Rusk, Defence Secretary Robert McNamara.

Singer Frank Sinatra makes a brief appearance, interrupting a clandestine meeting in a Washington bar between Kennedy's wife Jackie and the head of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), J. Edgar Hoover.

In a different part of the bar, White House press secretary Pierre Salinger is involved in another secret meeting, with a councillor from the Soviet embassy in Washington.

Kennedy, played by well-known actor Andrei Mironov, comes over as patriotic, religious, privately vulnerable, and horrified at the thought of nuclear war.

Pressed by Hoover to take military action against Cuban leader Fidel Castro's government, he summons a General and asks him to summarise the latest U.S. studies into the likely course, and effect, of a U.S.-Soviet conflict.

After listening to forecasts of cities destroyed and untold millions killed, he turns to the FBI chief and says: "Do you still want to attack Cuba?"

At the height of the crisis Kennedy seeks guidance from the Bible, then collapses suddenly with acute back pain. His wife comes running and he bids her continue the reading — an exhortation to "Love Thine Enemy."

Lying prostrate with pain, he gives vent to fears that he will be crippled and laughed at for his ill-

ness and weakness. Burlatsky also provides Kennedy with premonitions about his assassination. At one point the young president muses about how easy it would be for someone to shoot him on the street with a high-powered rifle from a high window — as happened in Dallas.

At the end of the play, with the crisis over, he remarks: "I'm off to the theatre, like Lincoln. I hope I don't meet his fate" — a reference to Kennedy's distant predecessor Abraham Lincoln, who was shot dead in a theatre.

Tension is kept up by dramatic lighting, electronic sound effects and, at particularly taut moments, a loud, urgent ticking.

Another ominous touch is the president's constant "shadow", Major Smith, who carries a small black box — the communications unit Kennedy would use to authorise the launch of nuclear arms.

The play, which opens on January 22 at the Theatre of Satire, is set in October and November 1962 during the "Cuba Crisis" when the despatch of Soviet missiles towards Cuba sparked off a U.S. naval blockade and fears that the quarrel would erupt into nuclear war.

At the height of the crisis, Kennedy takes a tough line before his aides. "Whoever has the strongest nerve will win," he declares as he drafts an ultimatum threatening war if the missiles are not withdrawn.

Then he secretly dispatches his brother to the Soviet embassy to negotiate a withdrawal of the missiles in exchange for a pledge of non-intervention.

Robert Kennedy returns triumphant in the midst of a heated meeting of the National Security Council, where Generals and "hawks" were pressing for an attack on Cuba.

Chief villain of the piece is Hoover, an out-and-out anti-Communist. He tells Jackie Kennedy he has monitored more than 70 telephone calls by her husband to a nightclub singer with mafia connections, and hints at blackmail.

The FBI chief also warns, ambiguously, that Kennedy's life could be in danger unless he takes a tough line on Cuba.

Throughout the one-act play the Soviet Union, represented by its solitary diplomat, is shown as firm but reasonable. It is largely passive — the decisions of the title are for the United States.

But the Soviet audience does have a rare opportunity to hear some arguments, even if advanced by the White House hardliners,

Ivan the Invincible too steady for Becker

NEW YORK (R) — Top-seeded Ivan Lendl of Czechoslovakia reaffirmed his position as the world's best tennis player Sunday when he beat Boris Becker of West Germany 6-2, 7-6 (7-1), 6-3 to win his third Masters tennis championship.

Lendl's victory in his sixth straight Masters final was his 35th in his last 36 matches and earned him \$100,000. Becker, who stunned the tennis world by winning last year's Wimbledon tournament at the age of 17, collected \$70,000.

In a match pairing two of the game's hardest hitters, Lendl's experience and steadier play proved to be the keys to his straight-set triumph before a crowd of about 13,000 at Madison Square Garden.

Though his volley is the most improved part of his game, Lendl rarely went to the net against Becker during the 2-hour and 25-minute match. Instead, he stayed at the baseline most of the time, passing the West German often as he constantly attacked the net.

Both players served strongly and accurately throughout. Becker had more aces and service winners — 17 against 12 by Lendl — but Lendl won 61 of his service points compared with 47 by Becker.

Unforced errors were a revealing statistic. Becker, who has now lost to Lendl in all four of their matches, committed 41, while Lendl had only 21.

Becker, cheered on by a large group of Germans who had flown here for the tournament, started off strongly. He held his first serve at 15 with a service winner, a forehand volley and a forehand smash. Then after falling behind

love-30 in the third game, he ran off four points on two aces, another service winner and a Lendl error.

But Lendl was serving just as effectively. And after it went to 2-2 he broke Becker at 30 on two placement winners and two errors. Then the Czechoslovak broke through again in the seventh game at 15 on three more errors by Becker and a backhand down the line.

Becker went ahead 2-0 in the second set on a service break in the second game when Lendl committed five errors and was serving for the set at 5-3. But Becker's erratic play did him in again as he enabled Lendl to break service at 30 on three more errors and another Lendl backhand down the line.

In the 12th game Lendl saved a setpoint with an ace and held on an overhead and a backhand that Becker drove wide.

Lendl completely overwhelmed Becker in the ensuing tiebreaker, winning it 7-1 on two service winners, three groundstroke placements, including a spectacular forehand hit on the run and two double-faults by Becker.

Lendl then pulled ahead 3-0 in the third set. In the third game, down 40-love on Lendl's serve, Becker cut his right knee when he crashed into a barrier while pursuing a Lendl volley. Becker limped off the court and took a three-minute injury time-out.

Refreshed after the time-out, Becker ran off the next three games to square it at 3-3. But then Lendl broke through again at 30 in the eighth game on three more errors by Becker and his fifth double-fault to make it 5-3.

Lendl then served out the match at love on two winners — on one of which Becker went sprawling in pursuit of the shot and two more errors.

"I was returning his serve better today and putting more pressure on him," Lendl said of Becker, who in the last year has soared from 65th to sixth in the world rankings. "I think there was so much pressure on him in this tournament. And he didn't handle it too well today and made more errors than he normally does. But he's only 18, so he has a lot of time."

Lendl, who lost to John McEnroe in the last two Masters finals after beating McEnroe and Vitas Gerulaitis in the two previous finals, was asked why he did not go to the net as often as he has been doing in the last year or so.

"Against Boris, that is not the best thing to do," he said.

Becker, who developed into an instant favorite with the Garden crowd because of his flamboyant, acrobatic style of play and his awesome power game, attributed his defeat to his service and Lendl's intensity.

"If I served better, the match would have been closer," the West German said. "And when he's flying on emotion like he was today, he's very tough to beat."

Lendl never lost a set in the \$500,000 tournament. En route to the final, he beat compatriot Tomas Smid, Tim Mayotte of the United States and Andres Gomeez of Ecuador, a last-minute replacement for Jimmy Connors who was forced to withdraw because of flu.

Becker struggled through three sets in beating Paul Annacone of the U.S. and Mats Wilander of Sweden before defeating Anders Jarryd of Sweden in the semifinals.

Becker said he thought his inability to hold serve for the second set at 5-3 may have been the turning point in the match.

"I could have won it and it would have been a new match," he said. "But I played a bad point at 30-all (when Becker netted an easy forehand volley). Then I lost the game, and he came back. I was a little bit down then, and he started playing better and better."

Lendl paid tribute to his young rival.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Jordan, Egypt agree to form sport body

CAIRO (Petra) — Jordan and Egypt agreed here Monday on forming a joint committee for drawing up the terms of a draft protocol for youth and sport cooperation between the two countries. The agreement will be finalized on Friday during a ceremony to be held at the end of a Jordanian-Egyptian sport week which began here Sunday. The decision, to form a joint committee came during a meeting between visiting Minister of Youth, Sports and Recreation Dr. Abdul Wahid El-Jamali and Egyptian Minister of Youth and Sports Dr. Abdul Wahid El-Jamali. The protocol is expected to include provisions for reciprocal visits by sports officials, cooperation in summer youth camps, training courses for coaches, and competition between sports clubs and teams from both countries.

Sudan reaches African club semis

DAR ES SALAAM, Tanzania (AP) — Sudan's El Merreikh soccer club beat Wagad FC of Somalia, 5-1, Monday to qualify for the last semifinal slot of the East and Central Africa Soccer Club Championships. El Merreikh's victory came at Mwanza, a small Tanzanian town on Lake Victoria. It put the Sudanese in a Wednesday semifinal match here against Kenya's AFC Leopards, four-time winners of the regional competition. On the same day, Mufura Wanderers of Zambia and Tanzania's Young Africans meet in the second semifinal match at Mwanza. The final is set for Saturday in Dar Es Salaam.

Lendl named 1985 world champion

LONDON (AP) — Ivan Lendl of Czechoslovakia on Monday was officially named World Champion for 1985 by the International Tennis Federation. The American-based ITC was unanimously chosen by the ITF world champions panel of former greats, comprising Don Budge — the first ever winner of the Grand Slam — Fred Perry, who won three successive Wimbledon singles finals from 1934 to 1936 without dropping a set, Frank Sedgman and Tony Trabert, the last American winner of the French championships 31 years ago.

Robson to give youth a tryout in Egypt friendly

LONDON (AP) — England manager Bobby Robson threw a World Cup chance to a trio of uncapped youngsters when he named his squad Monday for the friendly international against Egypt in Cairo on Jan. 29.

Newcastle striker Peter Beardsley, and midfielders Stewart Robson of Arsenal and Steve Hodge of Aston Villa all were named in the 22-man squad for England's first World Cup warm-up match.

Nottingham Forest striker Peter Davenport was put on stand-by in case Italian-based stars Mark Hateley and Ray Wilkins are forced out of the game by commitments to AC Milan.

Beardsley gains his first international recognition at any level while Hodge and Robson — no relation to the manager or England captain Bryan Robson — are promoted from the under-21 side that captured the European championship last season.

If Wilkins is not allowed to travel to Cairo, 21-year-old Robson could well make his senior debut.

The youngsters get a chance to push themselves into the squad to Mexico because of injuries to Bryan Robson, Trevor Francis and Paul Bracewell.

But Bobby Robson sprang a minor surprise by recalling Ipswich center half Terry Butcher at the expense of Norwich's Dave Watson. Butcher missed the last three World Cup qualifiers after a cartilage operation. Southampton's Mark Wright replacing him.

There was bitter disappointment for Liverpool's former England striker Paul Walsh, currently the nation's most in-form forward with 17 goals. Experts predicted Walsh's goals and dazzling ball control this season would earn him a certain recall to the international scene.

But Walsh and Luton's exciting left full-back Mitchell Thomas, who also had been expected to be selected, could still be lucky since only two of the squad are unaffected by potential domestic cup replays the same week.

Stewart Robson, who also won youth cups before making his under-21 debut at the age of 17, captained the under-21 team to last season's European championship success and has made a big impact in Arsenal's midfield this season.

Beardsley's selection, despite a poor game in front of the England manager on Saturday, completes his return from exile two and a half years ago.

Bears don't believe in Cinderella

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Reality moves just a little closer to the dream Monday for the New England Patriots and Chicago Bears.

Both teams were scheduled to arrive in New Orleans Monday afternoon and start practices Tuesday in preparation for Sunday's Super Bowl at the Louisiana Superdome.

For the Patriots the road to the Super Bowl has been a series of hotels, airports and little fan support.

New England started its NFL playoff adventure with a 26-14 wild-card victory over the New York Jets at Giants Stadium in East Rutherford, New Jersey.

They arrived in Los Angeles five days before their 27-20 playoff victory over the Raiders Jan. 5 and in Miami four days before their 31-14 triumph over the Dolphins Jan. 12 in the AFC Championship game.

"We realize that it's taken a lot of hard work and we're just going to go down there with a sense of purpose," said Patriot kicker Tony Franklin. "It's not really that easy to get distracted when you've got somebody that's as good as the Bears that you're going to be playing."

The Bears coaching staff, however, sees New England's success on the road as a sign that the Patriots are a very good football team.

"They're the best team I've seen on film," said Bear coach Mike Ditka.

Kind words, but they don't change the fact the Bears are heavily favored to beat the Cinderella Patriots. Only the Oakland Raiders, a 27-10 victor over Philadelphia in 1981 at the Superdome, emerged from the ranks of the wild-card teams to win a Super Bowl.

"Cinderella? What's that?" grumped Bears Defensive Coordinator Buddy Ryan. "They belong here. They won three games on the road."

Both teams are making their first appearances in the Super Bowl. They met during the second week of the season, with the Bears winning 20-7 in Chicago.

The Bears' shuttle to New Orleans has been nothing short of devastating. Two shutouts, 21-0 over the New York Giants and 24-0 over the Los Angeles Rams in the NFC title game, both at

home. No team has ever registered a shutout in the Super Bowl.

"It's always in our defense's mind," said defensive tackle William "The Refrigerator" Perry, of a possible shutout.

With the Super Bowl often comes super distractions in the way of an army of newsmen and the attractions of the host city. In this case, New Orleans' famed Bourbon Street.

"It's a big time full of hoopla and lots of distractions," said New England's Greg Hawthorne, "but you've got to put it in perspective. You're there to play ball and not to get too crazy."

Pat center Guy Morris said the media crush that will bear down on the players can be irksome and he advises them to "just relax. It can be a pain but, let's face it, we'd rather be answering questions (than be out of it) — it's a pleasure to be there."

Hawthorne was with the Pittsburgh Steelers when they won the 1980 Super Bowl. Tight end Derrick Ramsey was on the Oakland Raiders in the 1981 contest when they beat the Eagles, who had Franklin and Morris.

Brazil's Santana plans to improve results, but not his coaching style

By Sergio Leitao
Rouner

RIO DE JANEIRO — Tele Santana, reappointed Brazilian World Cup manager last week, said Monday that he would not change his philosophical approach to soccer.

Santana's dazzling 1982 Brazilians delighted millions of fans in Spain and were hot favorites to lift the trophy for the fourth time until defensive inadequacies sent them tumbling to a shock 3-2 defeat against eventual champions

Italy. "I think what happened in Spain was an accident and I'm determined to repeat everything we planned then," Santana told a press conference.

"Everyone who knows me is aware I like skilled soccer. It's been like that all my life and I don't think I should change anything now," he added.

Santana, 54, said he would select more than 22 players when he announces his squad on February 6 to insure against last-minute injuries which could disrupt his preparation.

Some critics fear Santana will pick virtually the same side as four years ago and that many of the players will be too old to adapt to Mexico's high altitude.

"We'll have four months to prepare," went on Santana. "That's enough time... the World Cup lasts only a month. If the players are well-conditioned physically, I see no reason why they cannot carry the burden of the competition."

"If Zico and Socrates are not fit, they will be replaced."

War of words over chess rematch continues

By David Goodman
Associated Press

LONDON — The European Chess Union on Sunday accused the Soviet Chess Federation of making factual errors in a message about future games for the world title.

David Levy, the Scottish international chess master, said that the incident indicated that someone in the Soviet federation was trying to block the wish of Soviet world champion Garry Kasparov that he should not have to play a quick return match against his fellow countryman, Anatoly Karpov.

In November, Kasparov defeated Karpov for the world title in Moscow over 24 games in two months and Kasparov has objected to proposals for a return match only three months later, in February.

There were constant telephone contacts Sunday between members of the European Chess Union in different countries. The union represents all western Europe's chess federations.

Levy said that Rolf Littorin, the union's Swedish president, teleaxed the Soviet Chess Federation stating that an earlier telex sent by the Soviets to chess authorities worldwide concerning the return match "appears to contain two important mistakes."

The message, sent from Moscow Thursday, asked for opinions on a proposed rule change to "provide for organization of a return match for the next cycle."

The Soviet message said that the proposal was made "in view of the request of world champion Kasparov" and that it had the support of the president and executive council of FIDE, the International Chess Federation based in Lucerne, Switzerland, which is the ruling body of chess.

Levy said that the present situation is that Karpov has been given the right to a return match, but Kasparov has not been given any right to return matches should he lose his title. A change in the FIDE rules could allow return matches after all world title contests, but Kasparov is arguing strongly against the whole concept of return matches, now or in the future, Levy said.

According to Levy, the European union told Moscow that it was "puzzled" by the Soviet telex and noted that Kasparov had been contacted by telephone and had only asked for federations to be consulted on the "principle of a return match."

Littorin told Moscow that he was not asking for a change of the FIDE rules. He also said that four members of FIDE's 10-member executive council were contacted by telephone within the past 24 hours.

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LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Monday.

One sterling	1.4265/75	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.4025/30	Canadian dollars
	2.4727/37	West German marks
	2.7845/55	Dutch guilders
	2.0967/77	Swiss francs
	50.47/52	Belgian francs
	7.5800/50	French francs
	1684/1685	Italian lire
	202.73/83	Japanese yen
	7.6475/6525	Swedish crowns
	7.6820/70	Norwegian crowns
	9.0475/0525	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	352.00/352.75	U.S. dollars

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Share prices closed lower with interest inhibited by disappointment that the G-5 meeting failed to produce definitive action to lower interest rates. At 1550 GMT the FTSE 100 index was 14.9 down at 1,381.1.

Market sentiment was also depressed by the easier spot crude oil price and renewed upward pressure on U.K. money market rates. Government bonds extended early losses to around 1 1/2 points with weaker sterling, dealers said.

Distillers was one penny lower at 565 after 590 initially following the agreed £2.27 billion offer from Guinness.

Argyll finished 16p down at 355 after news it is to pursue its bid for Distillers.

Plessey closed 4p up at 172 but moved to 166 in late trading on news that GEC's bid for the company is to be referred to the Monopolies Commission. The latter closed 2p up but moved to 166, also in after hours trading.

ICI closed one penny lower at 746, Thorn EMI was 3p off at 394 and British Aerospace ended 5p lower at 433.

Costain, a member of the consortium awarded the channel tunnel project, gained 6p to 478 while losing rival group leader Trafalgar House was 20p lower at 320.

YOUR DAILY Horoscope from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR TUESDAY, JAN. 21, 1988
GENERAL TENDENCIES: Many changes are taking place and you should be alert to and aware of these new beginnings which can be so important in your life, but you must first stop holding onto the past; let it go.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Get that new plan whittled down to a workable size and then it can become successful. Listen to what associates have to suggest.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) You now understand better how to handle business matters better and can get ahead faster.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Don't permit an old-time partner to keep you from advancing along more modern lines. Be sure to keep a promise made.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) If you change your mode of operating, your duties can be much easier to handle.

LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21) See good friends who can help you gain your highest ambitions. Don't permit your mate to keep you from using your talents.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Get busy at public work or important business matters and make great progress during the daytime.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Leave routines for a while and find out how others are operating, and you'll learn a great deal and become more successful in the future.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Listen to what experts have to suggest so that you can become more prosperous. Suggest a new idea to your mate.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Listen to what others have to suggest to get ahead faster and stop mulling in your own stew.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Get busy at all the work you have promised to do and don't accept any delays or obstacles.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Make arrangements to have a good time with friends and find more modern ways to do so.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Be sure to make conditions at home more as you want them to be. Be firm yet kind with others.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ... he or she will be one of those charming young people who will be alive and alert to everything going on, particularly of a modern nature. One who will do well in sales work or in humanitarian services. Many friends may be made but lost for awhile and then come back later.

THE Daily Crossword by Judson G. Trent

ACROSS

1. Upstairs
4. Shown without anger
9. Make — for (definite)
14. Get letter
15. Papal pet
16. Dynamo
17. — the King's
18. Danie
20. Spectator
21. Damaged
22. Lost
23. Vegetarian
24. Of France
26. Rustic
28. Building
31. Evolutionary man
35. Airport agency
37. Calendar spans
39. Take — (the)
40. Mural
41. Whirl episode
42. USMA grad
44. Chief or Serb
46. Chemist
47. — Brown
48. Collier's Major
50. On cloud nine
52. Valentine's act
53. Black
54. Author Wright
55. "The Good"
56. Jet
57. Pioneer
58. Case fragment
59. Capacitor
60. Tokyo once
61. Dancer's kin
62. Enchantress
63. Pigeon word
64. Pigeon
65. Reported out
66. Asian holiday

DOWN

1. Use a comb
2. Greeting
3. Washington
4. Incoming ways
5. City
6. Celebration
7. Addition
8. Stay
9. Little head
10. Cat's
11. Suit to
12. Shorn bird
13. Formerly once
14. Prater
15. Old high note
16. Sky, Fr.
17. Code cry
18. Seed
19. Spartan, e.g.
20. Financial
21. Dine
22. Firm
23. Sky
24. Longed
25. Actor Bruce
26. New Deal
27. Letters
28. Sister Jay
29. Kind of bag
30. Absence
31. Recent
32. Can. prov.
33. Plant
34. Be a fan
35. Vetch
36. Pink shift

Guinness makes record £2.3b bid for Distillers

LONDON (R) — British brewing group Guinness Monday proposed a record £2.27 billion (\$3.2 billion) merger with Distillers, Scotland's whisky giant which is currently fighting a hostile takeover bid by another firm.

The agreed merger plan, the biggest in the history of London's stock exchange, was promptly and unanimously accepted by the Distillers board.

Industry sources said the Guinness proposal had been recommended to Distillers' shareholders by its institutional shareholders to ensure that it escaped an unwelcome £1.86 billion (\$2.6 billion) from the Argyll food retailing group which it has been fiercely contesting since last month.

Distillers' Scotch whisky brands include Johnnie Walker and White Horse. The merger, giving Guinness an estimated 40 per cent of the home trade in whisky, could make it the biggest exporter of Scotch.

Guinness, whose value is put at half that of Distillers, is offering eight of its ordinary shares and £7 (\$10) in cash for every five Distillers shares. This values each Distillers share at 625 pence (\$8.90).

A Guinness statement said Distillers' shareholders could receive a cash alternative of 584 pence (\$8.32) per share.

Full acceptance of the share and cash offer would involve the issue of about 581 million new Guinness shares and the borrowing of about £508 million (\$724 million) in cash.

Guinness said Monday its offer for Distillers "will create a British group with a range of international brands unique in the drinks industry."

Guinness Chairman Ernest Saunders, who would become chief executive of the combined group, said: "It will have the financial, marketing and products strengths to compete with the largest and most efficient international drinks companies."

But a spokesman for the Argyll group commented that it was inconceivable that the Guinness-Distillers merger plan would escape referral to the British Monopolies Commission.

Guinness, which is famous for its dark Irish stout, already owns Distillers' competitor Arthur Bell, which it bought last year.

NEWS IN BRIEF

China plans Arab Gulf trade drive

BEIJING (R) — China is to set up a corporation to increase its exports to the Gulf area, the China Daily said Monday. The newspaper said the China General Trade Corporation with Gulf countries will handle commerce between China and nations including Saudi Arabia, Iran, Iraq, the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Kuwait and Qatar. China's main exports to the area, which account for less than one per cent of the Gulf region's total imports, are textiles, grain, foodstuffs, carpets, building materials and hardware. Earlier this month, China opened a trade centre in Abu Dhabi to expand its commercial and economic activities in the UAE. An Arab banker in Peking said China wanted to expand exports and labour services to the Middle East and attract more investment from the region.

Taiwan to promote exports to M.E.

TAIPEI (R) — Taiwan will launch an export drive in the Middle East following slumping sales in the region last year, the board of foreign trade said Monday. A board official said trade fairs would be held in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, Taiwan's two major markets in the region, between June and December and that several trade missions would be sent. Taiwan's exports to Saudi Arabia fell from \$728 million in 1984 to \$590 million last year. Sales to Kuwait dropped from \$148 million to \$117 million, he told reporters. The missions would represent manufacturers and exporters of building materials, textile and food processing machines and plastic and metal products, he said. Taiwan's imports from Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, mainly crude oil, fell to \$1.36 billion and \$671 million respectively from \$1.97 billion and \$728 million in 1984, he added.

Experts discuss Africa, L. America debts

CAIRO (R) — Economists and other private specialists from 15 African and Latin American countries met here Monday to discuss the debt crisis and other issues affecting both continents. "Our countries ... have similar problems obstructing their ambitious development plans," Egypt's minister of state for foreign affairs, Mr. Boutros Ghali, told the opening session of a three-day African-Latin American dialogue sponsored by Egypt and Mexico. "In the economic field we are particularly threatened by a serious foreign debt crisis," said Mr. Ghali, co-chairman of the gathering with Mexican Foreign Minister Bernardo Sepulveda. The seminar will discuss studies on political and economic subjects ranging from the transition from military to civilian rule in Latin America to the political impact of the debt crisis on Africa. The gathering is the third of its kind. The last was in Mexico City two years ago.

Rail tunnel to link Britain, France

LILLE, France (R) — French President Francois Mitterrand Monday named the Anglo-French Channel Tunnel Group-France Manche consortium to build a rail tunnel fixed link between Britain and France.

Speaking after a meeting here with British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, Mr. Mitterrand told a news conference: "I can tell you now that the two states have chosen the project France Manche-CTG."

Mrs. Thatcher said a road link would be built at a later stage.

Mr. Mitterrand said the winning consortium would have an exclusive 15-year concession to build and operate the link.

Latest estimates put the total cost of the scheme at 52 billion francs (\$6.9 billion), including financial charges, he said.

The actual cost of construction is estimated at 30 billion francs (\$4 billion).

Mrs. Thatcher said the two governments would start to give consideration to the building of a parallel road link in the year 2000.

The announcement followed an hour-long meeting between the British and French leaders in Lille to put their seal on an agreement worked out late last week by their transport ministers.

Mrs. Thatcher described the decision as a dramatic step forward in Anglo-French cooperation and a challenge to the private sector, which will be wholly responsible for building and operating the twin-tunnel rail shuttle scheme.

Investors world-wide would be welcome to take part in financing the project, she added.

The winning consortium consists of two equal groups, Channel Tunnel Group Ltd, based in London, and France Manche S.A.

Yamani may seek oil deal with Britain

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — Saudi Oil Minister Ahmad Zaki Yamani, is expected to approach Britain soon to determine if non-OPEC oil producing nations are willing to coordinate output with OPEC, an authoritative oil journal said Monday.

The Middle East Economic Survey (MEES), published here, said that Sheikh Yamani was expected to meet "in the fairly near future" with British Energy Secretary Peter Walker.

The meeting, MEES said, was likely to serve as "a sounding board to determine whether, under the imminent threat of a disastrous collapse of the oil market, an accommodation on production control can be reached between OPEC and non-OPEC oil exporting countries."

The Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), a cartel of 13 oil producing nations, decided at its meeting last December to abandon its strategy of trying to prop up oil prices by restricting production and to try instead, to secure and defend "a fair share" of the world market.

Because of overcapacity, however, prices have continued to weaken.

Survey shows Americans deeply worried about U.S. debt burden

WASHINGTON (R) — From California to Connecticut, Americans are deeply troubled by spiralling government debt yet suspicious of a new law aimed at balancing the budget, according to a Reuters congressional survey.

As Congress prepares to resume work this week after a month's recess, virtually every legislator interviewed from more than half the 50 states reported that the U.S. deficit is among the top issues on the minds of the people back home.

"There's very substantial concern about the deficit and what we're doing to our economy and the impact that has on trade," said Democratic representative, Mr. Thomas Carper, of Delaware.

"But they are also very worried about how we're going to eliminate those deficits and whose backs the burden is going to be placed on," he said.

Mr. Carper's comment was typical of the 32 senators and representatives interviewed by Reuters correspondents.

While the deficit is of top concern around the land, many of the lawmakers said voters are also asking questions about the supposed new solution to it — the so-called Gramm-Rudman law.

Approved late last year and signed by President Reagan, it would balance the budget in five years, by automatic and mandatory cuts if necessary.

People want to know just how the budget cuts in prospect will affect them, congressmen report.

The law requires an 11.7 billion cut in the \$220.5 billion deficit this year and further slashes to reduce the deficit to \$144 billion in the 1991 budget. Mr. Reagan said he will meet that goal in his budget proposal due next month.

The big issues in South Carolina are the deficit and trade and

twin rail tunnel providing drive-on drive-off shuttle trains which will cut the train trip from Paris to London to three and a half hours.

The plan would make the new link extremely competitive with air services.

It would be faster than the quickest surface route at present, by train and hovercraft, which takes more than five hours for the 400 kilometre journey.

The project calls for large railheads at both ends of the channel to handle the vehicle loading operations, and specially-designed shuttle trains each carrying up to 200 cars or 35 trucks departing every three minutes at peak periods.

The consortium says it will be able to handle 4,000 vehicles an hour crossing the channel in each direction, although Mr. Jacques Mayoux, chairman of the rival Euroroute consortium, estimates its effective capacity at less than half that figure.

Sir Nicholas Henderson, the former British ambassador to Washington who is heading the British side of the project, made a surprise last-minute offer to Mrs. Thatcher last week to build a road tunnel as well as an unspecified

date, if the technology became available.

The offer resulted from the British government's stated preference for a road as well as a rail link.

But it was attacked by rival consortia which said it would make no economic sense for France Manche-CTG to build a road tunnel which would make its shuttle trains obsolete, at least until it had recouped its investment on the specialised vehicle shuttles.

The consortium puts the construction cost of the rail tunnels alone at 27.2 billion francs (\$3.6 billion) and the financing is expected to bring the total cost of the project to 50 billion francs (\$6.6 billion).

But Mr. Mitterrand put the construction cost Monday at a slightly higher 30 billion francs (\$3.9 billion) and the total cost rising to 52 billion francs (\$6.9 billion), including financial charges, before the expected opening of the tunnel in 1993.

The tunnel will be 50 kilometres long, with three-quarters of their length under the sea. They will be bored at a depth of 40 metres below the seabed.

Mr. Mack said.

Senator Ernest Hollings, a South Carolina Democrat who co-sponsored the Gramm-Rudman bill, said his state was all for the cuts mandated by the new law.

He said his constituents were displeased that Mr. Reagan had vetoed a bill putting quotas on textiles. "Right now, we're going out of business and the administration is not doing anything about it," he said.

While the deficit looms large in all regions, other problems, particularly in the midwestern heartland where agriculture is depressed, are very much on people's minds.

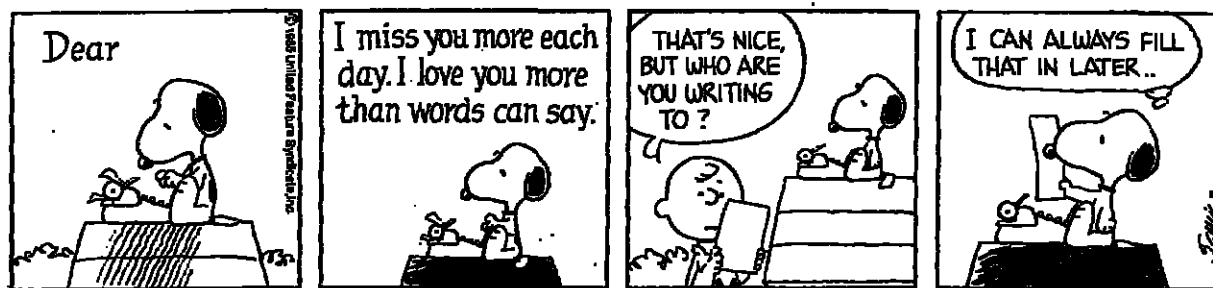
— Farms. "Agriculture is as bleak as ever. A lot of farmers are going under in the next six months and I see a worse credit crunch than last year." — Representative Dan Glickman, Democrat of Kansas.

— Libya. "People in my district would like to turn the Delta Force (the top secret U.S. counter-terror group) loose in Libya. If the president wanted to recruit an army to go in, he could come here in Texas. I think people are just fed up with Americans being killed. The terrorists have pushed us too far." — Representative Jack Fields, Republican of Texas.

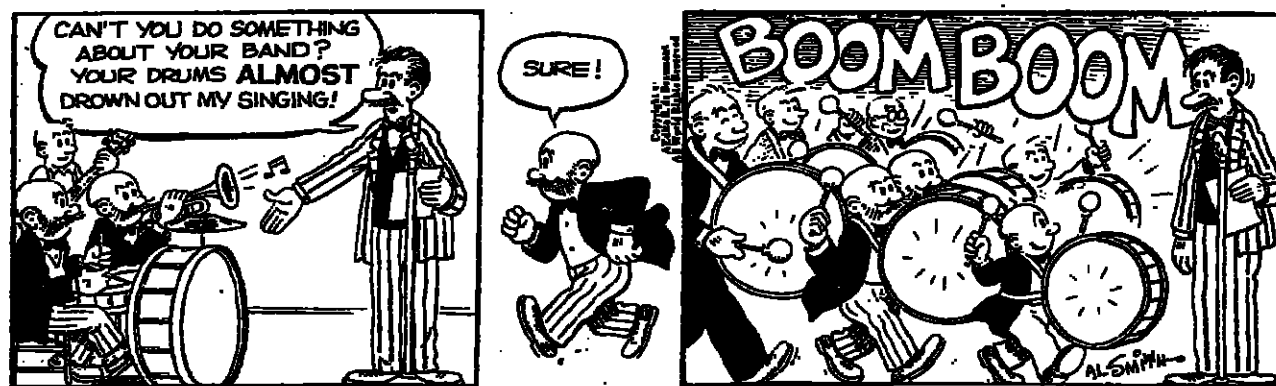
— Trade. One man told me: "How can you keep on voting for money to protect the NATO countries and Japan when they are killing us with their trade?"

— Unemployment. "My people are very concerned about the basics needed for survival ... day-to-day living ... and the impact Gramm-Rudman will have on their lives." — Representative Parren Mitchell, a Democrat who represents a poor, predominantly black district in Maryland.

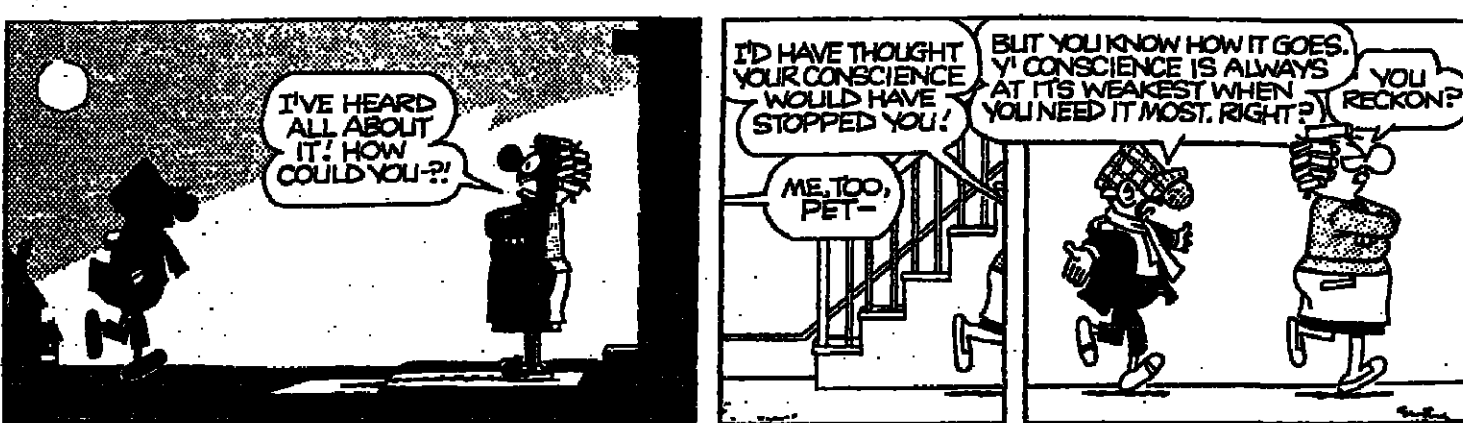
Peanuts



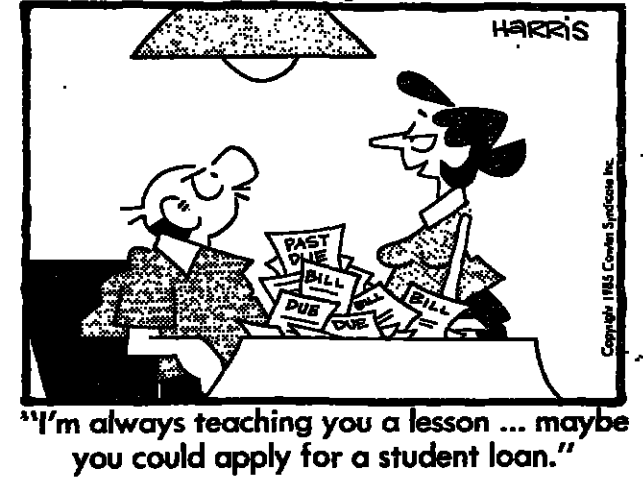
Mutt 'n' Jeff



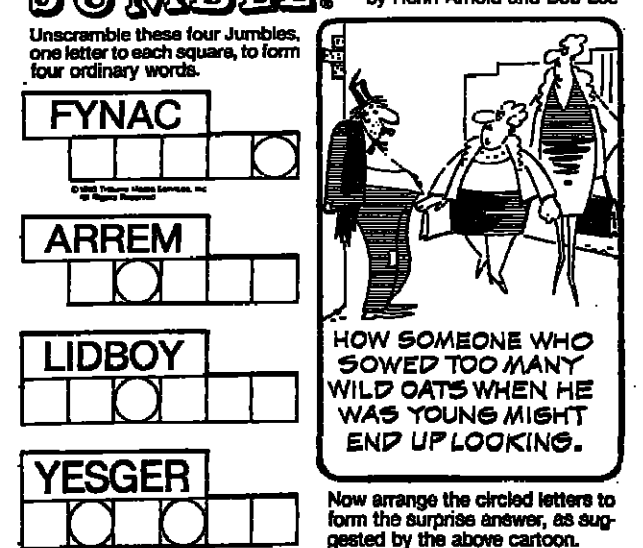
Andy Capp



THE BETTER HALF By Harris



JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee



Print answer here: (Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: ROBOT TULIP CELERY TOTTER
Answer: The best way to better your lot is to do this — A LOT BETTER

Military seizes power in Lesotho in bloodless coup

MASERU (Agencies) — Lesotho's military forces seized power in a bloodless coup on Monday, ending Prime Minister Chief Leabua Jonathan's 20 years of rule in this mountainous southern African kingdom.

Chief Jonathan, who himself staged a coup in 1970 when it appeared his Basutoland National Party was losing general elections, was at his home outside the capital of Maseru when he heard news of the take-over broadcast by state-run Radio Lesotho at 6 a.m., diplomatic sources told Reuters.

Lesotho's new leader, Major-General Justice Lekhanye, commander of the 1,500-man paramilitary force, was firmly in control and preparing to brief foreign diplomats on the situation, they added.

The coup announcement said Gen. Lekhanye would head a military council, whose size and composition was not given, to run the country. King Moshoeshoe II, a figurehead during Chief Jonathan's rule, would remain as head of state.

"This step has been taken to install peace and national reconciliation, which have been a problem of politicians in Lesotho," the announcement said.

There appeared to be no resistance to the coup and hundreds of people briefly took to the streets of the capital, singing and chanting in celebration.

South Africa, which surrounds Lesotho and controls its economy, imposed crippling delays on shipments across border posts three weeks ago, in what Pretoria officials said were searches for arms and guerrillas opposed to South Africa's white-led government. Lesotho was reported down to a few days' gasoline supply, despite rationing, and stocks of food and medicines were cut.

The main frontier post at Maseru where a road and rail bridge crosses the Caledon River from South Africa, was open on Monday. Lesotho's only international airport was closed.

Communications with the outside world remained intact.

The radio announcement gave no details about the whereabouts of Chief Jonathan, 71, and his ministers, but diplomatic sources told Reuters they were at their homes and not under arrest.

The only military presence around the city was at Radio Lesotho, where armed troops and two armoured troop carriers were stationed outside, and a small number of soldiers at the airport.

Diplomats said Gen. Lekhanye was about 45, a career soldier

appointed to head the paramilitary by Chief Jonathan. He was believed to be anti-communist and a devout Catholic. They said he had so far given no indication of his policies but was expected to work towards easing tensions with South Africa.

South Africa said its stringent border checks were aimed at preventing guerrillas fighting white minority rule from crossing into its territory.

Lesotho said Pretoria was retaliating against a United Nations Security Council resolution which unanimously condemned South Africa for the killing last month of nine people in Maseru. South Africa denied involvement.

The take-over climaxed a week of confusing events in Lesotho. On Wednesday, troops surrounded the offices of the prime minister in what the government said was response to a bomb scare.

On Saturday, Information Minister Desmond Sticks admitted — after earlier denials — that there had been a rebellion within the paramilitary force.

On Sunday, Chief Jonathan said loyal troops had crushed a coup attempt instigated by South Africa.

The South African Press Association quoted Chief Jonathan as saying incidents last week reflecting dissension in the armed

forces resulted from "South African-inspired discontent, which was meant to confuse the Basotho, (the people of Lesotho) and make them disloyal to the country and government."

Chief Jonathan said Gen. Lekhanye had resisted South African pressure to conduct a coup because he was "a highly disciplined man" and "a good and mature soldier who prefers to remain in the barracks in preference to the attractions of political power."

Gen. Lekhanye was part of a Lesotho delegation that travelled to Pretoria on Friday for discussions towards easing the border blockade. Maj. Gen. S.K. Molapo and Maj. Gen. S.R. Matela, commanders of security units and police, were also in the group.

South African Foreign Minister R.F. Botha, in Cape Town, declined to comment on the coup beyond saying South Africa "would welcome any lessening of tension in Lesotho and would also welcome any move that would contribute toward greater stability on the border."

Mr. Botha had earlier described Chief Jonathan as the single biggest destabilising factor in Lesotho. He accused Chief Jonathan of blackmailing Western countries by threatening to turn to East bloc nations for support.

Phone tap said to have led to arrest of suspect in London kidnapping case

NEW YORK (R) — A Middle East antiques dealer detained in New York pending charges in the kidnapping of a wealthy Arab in London was trapped by a Scotland Yard telephone tap, according to U.S. law authorities.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) said Mustafa Zein, made a series of calls demanding a multimillion-dollar ransom for Mohammad Sadiq Al Tajir, the brother of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) ambassador to London.

"The ambassador's line was tapped and the calls were traced to Zein in New York," an FBI spokesman said.

Mr. Zein, who has no previous U.S. arrest record, was jailed pending arraignment on kidnapping charges on Tuesday. The FBI spokesman said extradition proceedings would open shortly.

Sadiq, who was abducted from his London home on Jan. 6, fled his captors last Friday after his family paid a \$3 million ransom to the kidnappers, who had originally demanded \$71.5 million

for his release. British police said Sadiq was chained to a bed for 11 days and had been drugged and forced to wear a mask.

The FBI said Mr. Zein, 43, offered no resistance when detained on Saturday night by a team of agents in his Fifth Avenue flat, a block from the Empire State Building.

The spokesman said the FBI was acting at the request of British authorities and had obtained a U.S. arrest warrant on Friday. He would not say whether more arrests were expected.

Scotland Yard officials have said the ransom was paid through an intermediary known only as "Mr. X." They said he was probably of Arab origin and negotiated on behalf of up to four fellow-Arabs who carried out the daylight abduction.

The FBI said Mr. Zein made calls from New York to the UAE ambassador in London, but would give no additional details on his role in the affair or answer questions about "Mr. X."

The arrest stunned other residents of the high-rent nine-story building, where Mr. Zein lived on the top floor. They described him as a pleasant man who kept mostly to himself.

"No one can believe it," said Eric Donner, a building doorman. "He was a real nice guy and no one ever suspected anything like this."

He said he thought Mr. Zein was from Lebanon and travelled frequently, especially to Beirut. He said Mr. Zein had lived in the building for several years.

Sadiq sent at least four letters to his brother, UAE Ambassador Sadiq Mohammad Mahdi Al Tajir, warning that he could be killed if the police were contacted.

Sadiq's brother, in addition to being a diplomat, is a wealthy businessman who ranks himself among the world's richest men, with a fortune estimated at between \$1.4 billion and \$2.8 billion. Sadiq runs a London travel business.

Aquino vows to try Marcos for human rights violations if she wins elections

WASHINGTON (R) — Philippine presidential candidate Corason Aquino said on Sunday if she wins the Feb. 7 elections, she would put President Ferdinand Marcos on trial for human rights violations.

Mrs. Aquino, appearing on the "Face the Nation" programme of the U.S. television network CBS, said she held Mr. Marcos responsible for the assassination of her husband, opposition leader Benigno Aquino, who was gunned down as he stepped off a plane under military escort at the Manila airport in 1983.

He was returning from self-imposed exile in the United States. Philippine armed forces Chief

of Staff Gen. Fabian Ver and 25 others on trial for the assassination were recently acquitted of charges they were involved in Mr. Aquino's murder in what opposition leaders have labeled a rigged trial.

"It is not only my husband who has been the victim of Mr. Marcos' repressive regime. There are so many others, probably thousands," Mrs. Aquino said.

"Mr. Marcos will go on trial (and) will be protected by due process of law, rather than let some of these people take the matter into their own hands," she added.

Mrs. Aquino, 52, saying she was "greatly concerned about the coming elections," charged that Mr.

Marcos was also behind the killing last Wednesday of one of her campaign leaders, Jeremias de Jesus and his driver were killed when their jeep was ambushed in Mrs. Aquino's home province of Tarlac.

She said two others in the jeep survived the attack, "and they can point to the actual assassin."

Reuter adds from Zamboanga, Philippines: Mrs. Aquino shrugged off a grenade blast as she spoke at a campaign rally on Sunday and said she would not be scared away from her drive to unseat President Ferdinand Marcos.

It was the first time that Mrs. Aquino had run into violence during her hectic campaign for the Feb. 7 election.

Militants reoccupy Golden Temple office

NEW DELHI (Agencies) — Hundreds of militant Sikhs waving swords and ceremonial daggers on Monday reoccupied their office in the religion's holiest shrine hours after they were forced to vacate it by moderates, police said.

A senior Punjab police official told Reuters from the state capital Chandigarh that there was no bloodshed as the youth factions scuffled briefly before the militants entered the room.

He said police who scoured the tense Golden Temple in Amritsar Sunday night after at least three people were wounded in gun battles had not found any hidden arms nor made any arrests.

The Press Trust of India (PTI) said earlier that the searches were ordered after militants snatched guns from supporters of the state's

ruling moderate Akali Dal party. Amritsar pilgrims' hostels were also searched and paramilitary forces rushed to the city.

Some 7,000 Sikhs were in the temple as stone-throwing broke out and 70 were involved in ensuring gunfire as worshippers fled in panic. Two militants and a pilgrim were wounded.

The violence erupted over rival plans to reconstruct a temple building and followed a language census to determine a land dispute with neighbouring Haryana state.

The Sikh temples management committee, backed by the Akali Dal, has said it will begin to pull down the Akal Takht building on Jan. 27 and then reconstruct it.

The Akal Takht building was virtually destroyed when the Indian army stormed the Golden

Temple complex in June 1984 to root out armed extremists. It was rebuilt under government sponsorship, but the Sikhs were not satisfied and each group wants to reconstruct it themselves.

More than 600 pilgrims and devotees scattered and fled in panic, after the shooting started at 4:15 p.m.

The firing in the Golden Temple was the latest in a series of confrontations between radicals and moderates.

In late November the head priest of the Golden Temple, Sikhism's equivalent of the pope, was wounded by terrorists as he knelt to pray in the temple compound.

The shootout on Sunday was the first violence in the sacred compound since then.

India, Pakistan fail to agree on peace accord

ISLAMABAD (R) — India and Pakistan said on Monday they failed to agree on key terms of a peace treaty but made progress on a separate accord barring attacks on each others' nuclear sites.

He said these alternatives would be studied by New Delhi and discussed at an India-Pakistan joint commission meeting in March.

Pakistan has said it wants the option of taking to the United Nations its 38-year-old dispute with India over possession of the Himalayan state of Jammu and Kashmir.

It has also said that the clause barring foreign military bases was not needed because both countries were non-aligned.

bilateral issues to World forums and from hosting foreign military bases.

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U.S. team lambasts corruption in Mexico

WASHINGTON (AP) — Corruption is so rampant in Mexico that the man jailed in the killing of a U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) agent last year was recently freed to attend a lavish 200-person birthday party in his honour at one of Mexico City's leading hotels, a congressional delegation just back from Mexico told reporters on Sunday.

Representative Charles Rangel, chairman of the House of Representatives select committee on narcotics abuse and control, said alleged drug trafficker Rafael Caro Quintero, implicated in last year's torture and killing of agent Enrique Camarena Salazar and his pilot, had also been seen dining at an exclusive Mexico City restaurant "with some federal officials."

The congressman, who met with Agent Camarena's widow before visiting Mexico, said they were appalled to hear from U.S. agents and Mexican businessmen that Mr. Quintero was seen "on numerous occasions dining in fancy restaurants," while he was supposed to be in custody on murder charges.

Mr. Rangel, in a news conference at Andrews Air Force Base outside Washington, said the delegation was also told that "over \$600,000 was found in his (Mr. Quintero's) jail cell, along with some guns," and he was often freed on weekends. He did not cite a source for this information.

"It is interesting to note what a Mexican jail is," said Mr. Rangel. "You'd think it's a terrible place to be. Well, if you have money, it's not."

Agent Camarena was abducted Feb. 7, 1984, in Guadalajara and his badly beaten body was discovered, along with that of his Mexican pilot, on March 5.



U.S. sailor reportedly arrested in UAE for selling heroin

ABU DHABI (R) — Police in Fujairah, one of seven emirates in the United Arab Emirates (UAE), have arrested an American sailor trying to sell heroin from his hotel room, the UAE daily 'Al Itihad' said Monday. It said the sailor, not named in the report, was one of the crew of the U.S. ship President Taylor, stopped and searched by the Iranian navy in the Gulf earlier this month. The paper said eight kilograms of heroin worth \$12 million were confiscated after the man tried to sell some to a police decoy. The U.S. embassy said they had no information about the incident.

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U.S. asks polar walkers to pay for their rescue

WELLINGTON (R) — The United States National Science Foundation (NSF) said on Monday it would charge a private British polar expedition \$30,000 for evacuating its members from the ice after their support ship sank. Peter Wilkins, the NSF's director of polar programmes, told reporters the footprints of Scott expedition would be asked to pay for an eight-hour Hercules flight which took 26 people from the U.S. ship, the ship's base at Christchurch, New Zealand, last week. The evacuation was forced on the expedition and an Austrian climbing party travelling with it after the Southern Orest support ship was crushed and sunk by pack ice in the Ross Sea on its way to McMurdo. Wilkins said the flight to Christchurch had cost \$4,000 an hour and had disrupted the NSF's work.

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Chinese children visit Soviet station in Antarctica

PEKING (R) — Two Chinese children have visited the Soviet Union's Antarctic station, where they exchanged presents and ate a "friendship" cake, the New China News Agency said Monday. It said the children, who are on a two-week visit to the Chinese Antarctic station, were shown round the Soviet base on Friday and presented its director with gifts. They were given souvenirs and tucked into a large cake decorated with the Chinese characters for friendship, it said. The Chinese children also visited the Chilean station, it added.

The U.S. embassy said they had no information about the incident.

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67 AIDS victims die in Australia

CANBERRA (R) — Sixty-seven Australians have died and 77 others are suffering from the killer disease AIDS, according to health department statistics released on Monday. Most victims were homosexuals in the 30-39 age group. At least 12 people contracted the disease through blood transfusions while two were intravenous drug users. All of Australia's six states reported AIDS cases with New South Wales accounting for 97, followed by Victoria with 19 and Queensland 16. Researchers have estimated that as many as 50,000 people in Sydney, the capital of New South Wales, have antibodies indicating contact with AIDS. The city's population of 3.3 million has a large homosexual community.

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Striptease brings 'divine wrath' on Israeli settlement

TEL AVIV (R) — Rabbits say a New Year's Eve striptease show has brought divine wrath on an Israeli settlement plagued by tragedies. Since the stripper performed in Kiryat Malachi, 40 kilometres south of Tel Aviv, five residents have died — three in traffic accidents, one during childbirth and another from a heart attack. Rabbits told a delegation of worried residents the tragedies stemmed from a public sin committed in Kiryat Malachi — the New Year's striptease show, newspapers reported. "A black cloud has covered the town because of this sin," the Masrivi daily quoted the rabbi as saying. "That's ridiculous," countered Mayor Yosef Verman. But the newspaper, El-Azhar said many townspeople believed special prayers should be said to remove the cloud.

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Tutu, paying tribute to Luther King, promises civil disobedience campaign

ATLANTA (AP) — South African Archbishop Desmond Tutu stood Sunday in the pulpit once occupied by Martin Luther King Jr. and promised a campaign of civil disobedience against apartheid laws.

Bishop Tutu was the keynote speaker at an international conference honouring the slain civil rights leader and preacher of non-violent civil disobedience on the eve of the first national holiday marking his birth.

If the South African government does not change its racial policies, Bishop Tutu said he would lead "a campaign of civil disobedience against unjust laws."

"Our people are peaceful to a fault," he said. "We are stupid, for we keep going up against an intransigent government. They use tear gas, bullets, dogs and whips."

Representatives of 40 nations attended the conference at Atlanta's Ebenezer Baptist Church, where King was pastor until his assassination in 1968.

A candlelight memorial service was held Sunday night at King's

tomb in Atlanta, in advance of Monday's official holiday. His widow, Coretta Scott King, was to place a wreath at the tomb on Monday.

Monday's scheduled observances included "Living the Dream," a musical celebration by several top recording stars and others in Washington, New York and Atlanta.

Performers were to include Bob Dylan, Joan Baez, Quincy Jones, Patti LaBelle, Harry Belafonte and Bill Cosby.

"I think he would like to see his work continued, not simply remembered," said Belafonte, who was a close friend of King.

The programme will be recorded in all three cities and edited for a two-hour national television special on the same night as a fund-raiser for the Martin Luther King Jr. Centre for Non-Violent Social Change in Atlanta.

King's actual birthday was Jan. 15, but Monday was set as the federal holiday.

A parade was planned in Birmingham, Alabama, to Kelly Ingram Park, where a four-metre monument to King was to be unveiled.

"His dream liberated Birmingham from itself and began a new day of love mutual respect and cooperation," the inscription on the statue reads in part.

Students at Lewis and Clark College in Portland, Oregon, planned to begin a five-day fast to protest race discrimination. The fast, sponsored by the private college's South Africa Action Group, is aimed at showing support for American and South African blacks in their struggle for civil rights.

Some people protested the idea of a national holiday for King.

Members of North Carolina's white patriot party and other white supremacist groups marched in front of the state capital in Raleigh on Saturday, and held a rally in front of a confederate monument.

Ku Klux Klansmen held a parade and cross-burning Saturday at Pulaski, Tennessee, where the original Klan was formed in 1865.

Pakistan sentences 3 Sikh hijackers to death

LAHORE, Pakistan (R) — A Pakistani court on Monday sentenced three Indian Sikh separatists to death and seven others to life imprisonment for hijacking aircraft to Pakistan.

Special court Judge Fazal Karim acquitted four others and told the 10 convicts that they could appeal before the Lahore high court within 30 days.

The Sikhs had hijacked two Indian Airlines to the Pakistani border town of Lahore, capital of Punjab province, in September 1981 and July 1984.

The three sentenced to death — Parminder Singh (Alias Harlan-Mania), Harmander Singh and Dalip Singh — were from a group of nine who hijacked an Indian Airlines Boeing 737 on July 5, 1984, to publicise a demand for a separate "Khalistan" Sikh homeland in India's Punjab state.

Two of the group, Gurdeep Singh and Ravinder Singh, were sentenced to life imprisonment, which under Pakistani law lasts 25 years, and four were acquitted — Manjinder Singh, Manjeet Singh, Gurvinder Singh and Harbhajan Singh.

All five Sikhs who hijacked another Indian Airlines Boeing 737 on September 29, 1981, were sentenced to life imprisonment.

When the sentences were announced the Sikh, who had pleaded not guilty, chanted "Long Live Khalistan," "Death to Indian Imperialism" and "Death to (Indian Prime Minister) Rajiv Gandhi," witnesses said.

The Pakistan government set up the special court for the trial following Indian charges that Islamabad was helping Sikh separatists.

These insidious interruptions can slowly harm the heart or cause a sudden lethal attack, he says. Identifying and treating victims could save lives.

"When ischemia comes and goes over the years, it nibbles patches out of the myocardium (heart muscle) and can result in heart failure. If episodes of ischemia hit vital parts of the heart, or they just last too long, it can go on to complications like infarction (heart attack) and death," he said.

Dr. Selwyn, who directs his hospital's cardiac catheterisation lab, outlined his findings in an interview and in a presentation at a science writers forum sponsored by the American Heart Association last week in Sarasota, Florida.

The researchers, who began their work in 1977, observed silent ischemia by hooking about 300 people to portable electrocardiogram machines that recorded their heart rhythms while they went about their daily lives. At the same time, the patients kept diaries of their activities.

Among the findings: Seventy-six per cent of all ischemia is painless. Ischemia accompanied by angina lasts one to three minutes. But silent ischemia goes on much longer and may last from four to 40 minutes.

Seventy-seven per cent of the ischemia was triggered by tasks that required mental arousal, such as interviews, conversations, driving or mathematics.

First ischemia occurs during the first six hours after people wake up in the morning. This is also when heart attacks are most likely.

For a patient who has one or two angina attacks a week, it's not unusual to have five or 10 bouts of silent ischemia each day.

Silent ischemia usually occurs among men, and it's most common among smokers and those with high blood pressure, high cholesterol levels, diabetes or a family history of heart disease.

Approximately five per cent of all men over age 45 who have two of these risk factors will also have silent ischemia.

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Study finds many have painless but dangerous heart disruptions

BOSTON (AP) — For millions of people, such ordinary mental exertion as talking on the telephone or doing maths can trigger painless disruptions in the flow of blood to their hearts that put them at high risk of death, new research has found.

These episodes, called "silent ischemia," occur when the arteries that feed the heart temporarily squeeze shut, starving the heart muscle of oxygen.

When this happens during physical exercise, a crushing chest pain known as "angina" often results. But the new research suggests that painless ischemia is four times more common than angina.

Dr. Andrew P. Selwyn of Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston said these disruptions occur far more often than experts had previously suspected.

Dr. Selwyn estimates that about two million Americans with angina also experience silent ischemia. But there are probably an additional three million or four million people with no angina or history of heart disease who have

these episodes without knowing it.

These insidious interruptions can slowly harm the heart or cause a sudden lethal attack, he says. Identifying and treating victims could save lives.

"When ischemia comes and goes over the years, it nibbles patches out of the myocardium (heart muscle) and can result in heart failure. If episodes of ischemia hit vital parts of the heart, or they just last too long, it can go on to complications like infarction (heart attack) and death," he said.

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